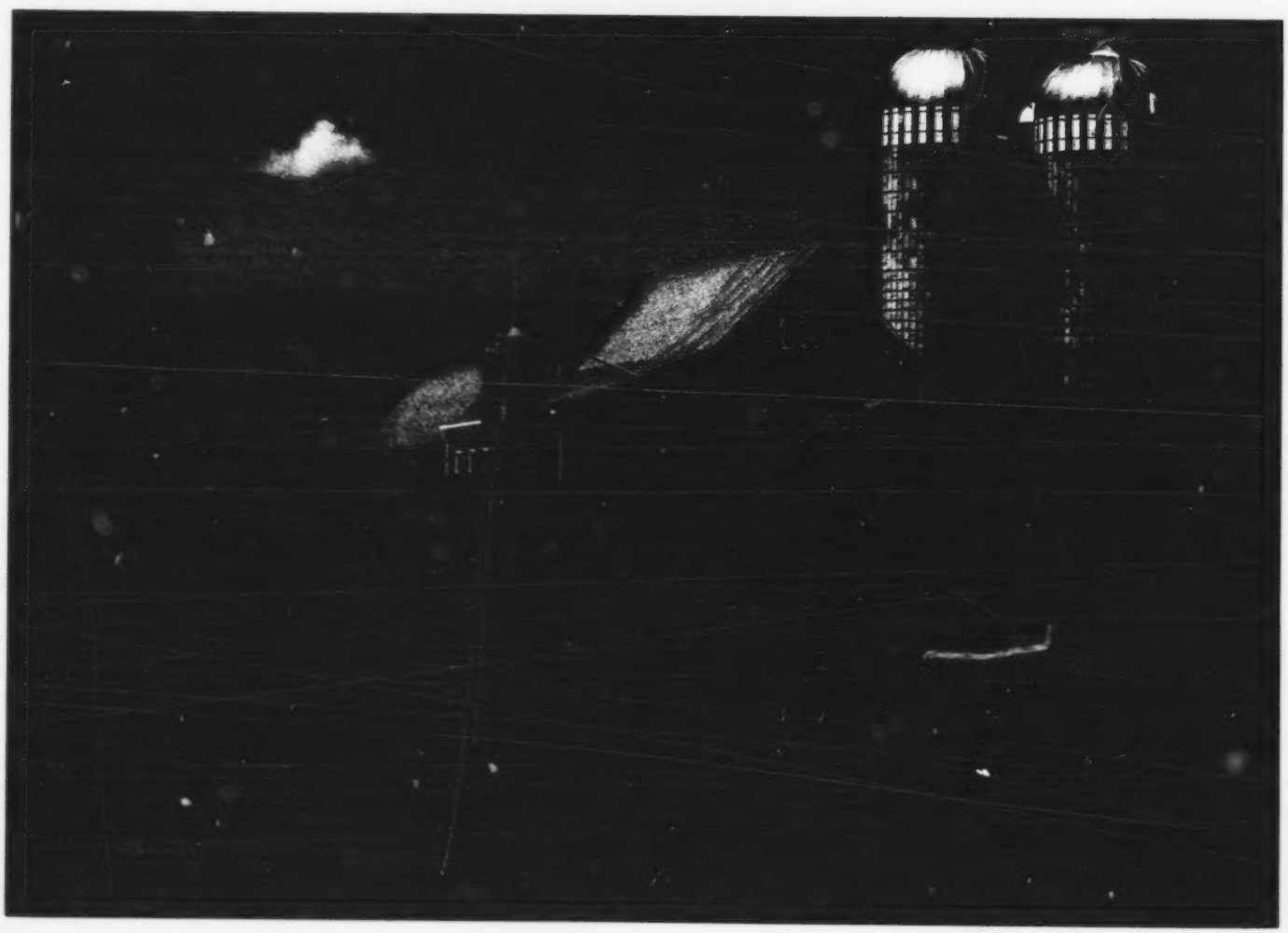
Prince Edward Island
Department of Agriculture
Annual Report 1985



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Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture Annual Report

For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1984
and Activities Report for the year ending
December 31, 1985

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ACTS

Pursuant to Executive Council Minute M37/84, the Department is responsible for the administration of the following Acts:

Agricultural Chemicals Act
Agricultural Standards Act
Agricultural Products Marketing Act
Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development (PEI) Act
Agrologist Act
Apiary Inspection Act
Artificial Insemination Act
Bang's Disease Eradication Act
Crop Insurance Act
Dairy Producers Act
Dairy Products Act
Division Fence Act
Dog Act
Domestic Animals Act
Farm Implement Act
Federal Dairying Company Act
Field-Root Seeds Zoning Act
Grain Elevators Act
Land Development Corporation Act
Livestock Branding or Tatooing Act
Livestock Community Auction Sales Act
Margarine Act
Marketing Act
Milk Act
Mink Protection Act
Natural Products Marketing Act
Pesticides Control Act
Plant Disease Eradication Act
Potato Crop Mortgage Act
Potato Production Act
Poultry and Poultry Products Act
Race Horse Inspection Act
Veterinary Assistance Act
Veterinary Profession Act
Women's Institute Act

Agriculture In 1985

A mild drought in most areas of the province contributed to a poor year for many Island potato farmers. The grain crop achieved better than average quality with barley in Western P.E.I. recording record high yields. Although 1985 prices eased a little, livestock slaughter numbers were maintained with marginal increases over 1984.

Berries

Some effects of winter damage kept blueberry production constant with previous years, while less than ideal weather conditions reduced the 1985 strawberry production by more than 20 per cent. Raspberry yields were down this year although demand remains high. Production of cranberries was off 25 per cent from 1984.

Vegetables

Acreage of vegetables continued to rise in 1985. Various vegetable acreages include beans — 20 acres; beets — 160 acres; cabbage — 175 acres; carrots — 75 acres; corn — 90 acres; cucumbers — 58 acres; lettuce — 45 acres; parsnips — 20 acres; rutabagas — 350 acres; tomatoes — 6 acres; and processing peas. Cole crop production in 1985 totalled 230 acres made up of broccoli, brussel sprouts, and cauliflower.

Potatoes

Potato acreage for 1985 on P.E.I. was estimated at 76,000 acres with 73,400 of those being harvested. Crop yield was down in most areas of the province with the final provincial yield estimated at 240 cwt. per acre down from a record high 265 cwt. per acre in 1984. The two week delay in planting combined with the extra dry summer have been suggested as the major causes for a seven per cent drop in production.

Tobacco

In 1985, tobacco acreage, yield and production all showed decline. The four per cent price increase was not enough to offset these production losses as the farm sales slipped to $10.4 million from the 1984 proceeds of over $15 million.

Field Crops

Total acreage planted to wheat, oats, mixed grain, and fodder corn declined slightly, while barley showed a sharp increase. This increase in acreage coupled with improved yield resulted in a 30 per cent increase in Island barley production. Soybean production is also increasing with approximately 4,000 acres planted in 1985.

Poultry & Eggs

An estimated five per cent increase in egg production highlighted 1985, however farm cash receipts from poultry dropped substantially from 1984.

Honey

A reduction in the number of both colonies and beekeepers explains the substantial production drop of 1985 in light of constant yields.

Farm Net Income

Farm Cash Receipts of $181 million are projected for 1985 while operating and depreciation charges are estimated to total $148 million. Due to changes in inventory levels, however, the farm net income for 1985 is projected to be $22.8 million.

Swine

The average price for market hogs in 1985 was $68.36 per cwt. down from $72.17 per cwt in 1984. The total of federally and provincially inspected slaughter numbers amounted to just over 176,000.

Total pigs on farms as of October 1, 1985 stands at 128,000 up from 125,000 a year earlier.

Beef

Slaughter numbers for 1985 indicate that 25,992 animals were federally inspected, representing an increase of 7.2 per cent from 1984. Preliminary estimates on provincially inspected slaughter numbers also indicate an increase of seven per cent from the previous year.

In line with this the number of beef animals on farms as of July 1, 1985 was down from the same period in 1984. Beef cows decreased by six per cent, heifers for breeding were down eight per cent, while steers for slaughter were up one per cent.

Sheep and Lambs

Total sheep and lambs on Island farms as of July 1, 1985 was reported at 8,700 up by seven per cent from 8,400 on the same date in 1984.

Dairy

Dairy production in 1985 dropped to 96 million litres, down from 101 million litres in 1984. Industrial milk production fell almost six per cent while fluid milk and farm separated cream remained at a constant level with 1984.

P.E.I.
Agriculture

1985 Annual Report

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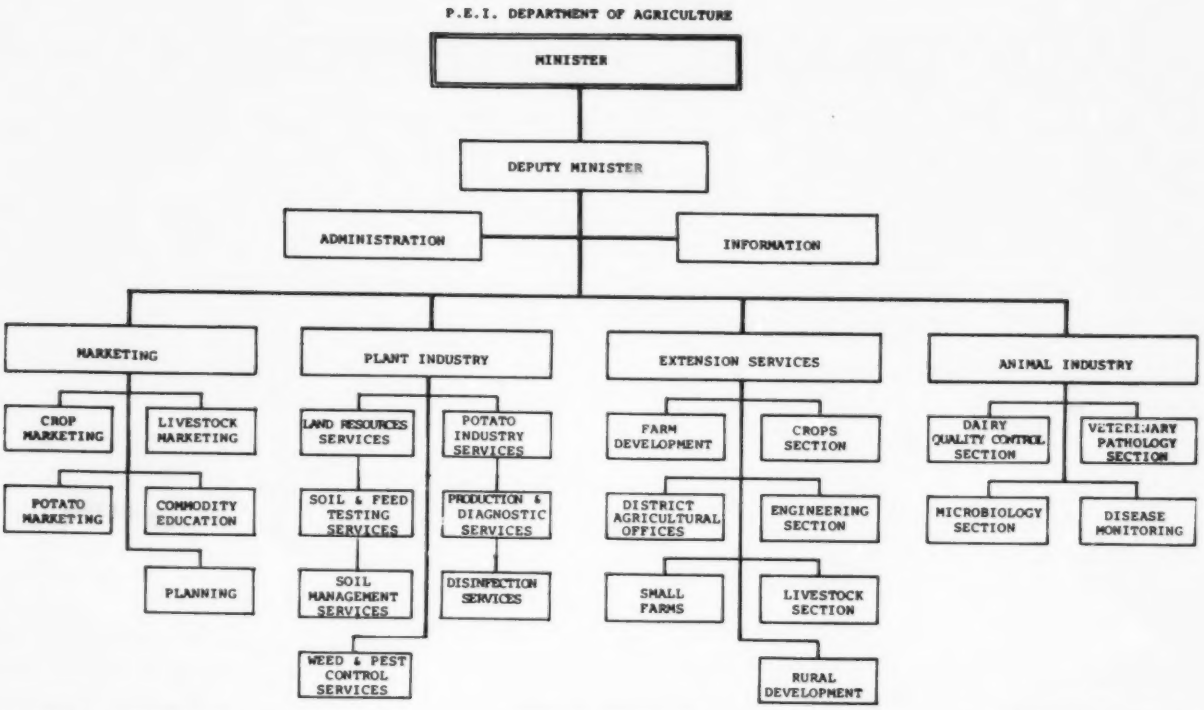


Dr. Wendell Grasse
Director
Animal Industry Services

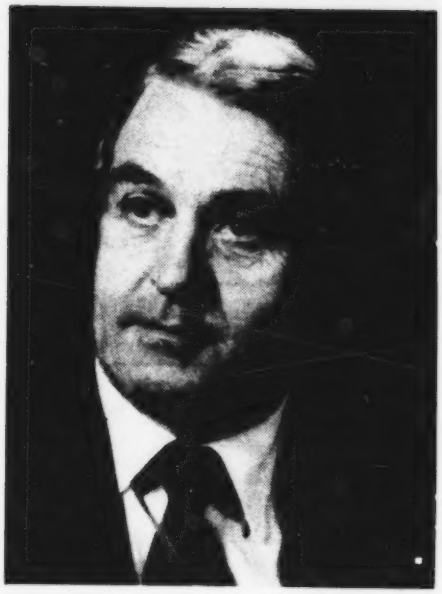
David Rogers
Director
Extension Services

David Faulkner
Director
Marketing Branch

Allan Hogan
Director
Administration

Dr. Awni T. Raad
Director
Plant Industry Services

Lynne A. Rodgerson
Director
Information



P.E.I. Department of Agriculture
Charlottetown, 1986

TO THE HONOURABLE LLOYD G. MacPHAIL
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

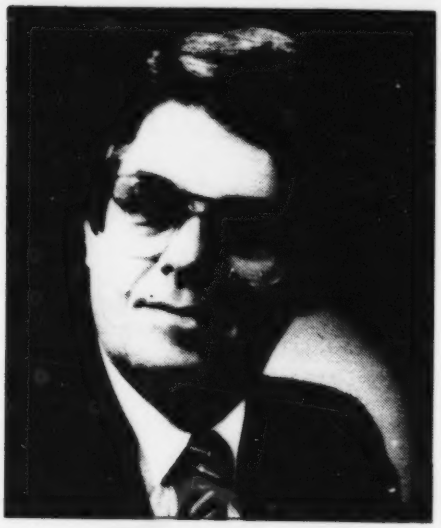
Sir:

I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture comprised of financial statements for the period April 1, 1984 to March 31, 1985 and activities for the calendar year, 1985.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Prowse Chappell
Minister of Agrculture



To the Honourable Prowse G. Chappell
Minister of Agriculture

Sir:

I am pleased to present the annual report of the Department of Agriculture for the 1985 calendar year and the financial report for the fiscal year 1983-84.

1985 will be remembered as a year of financial crisis for farmers throughout North America. This has been caused by increased production, decreased export markets, lower land values and reduced farmer equity. Prince Edward Island farmers, especially those in the potato sector, have also been effected by this situation.

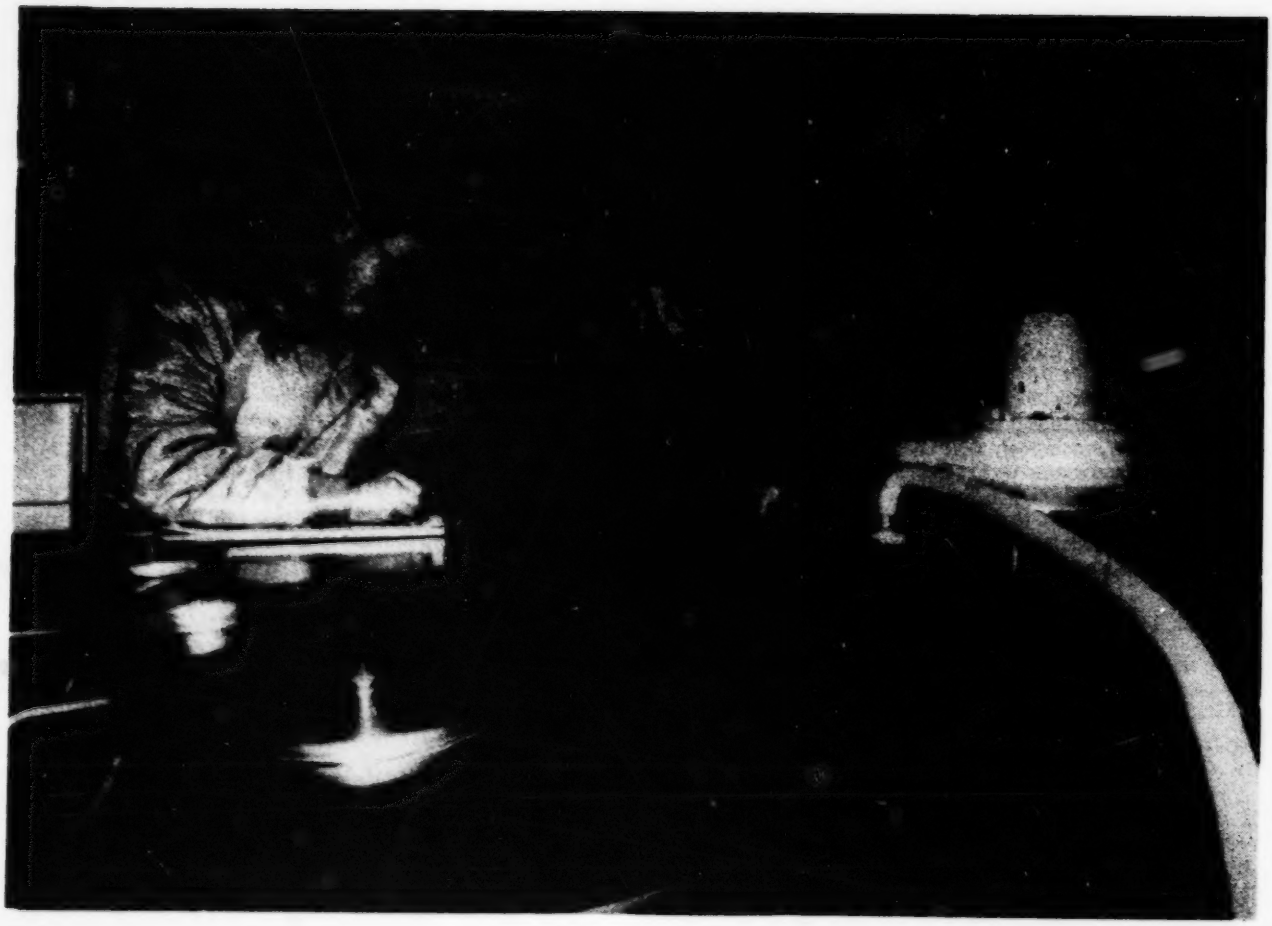
Your Department staff have worked with farmers and farm organizations to help overcome these difficulties and in planning for longer term solutions. New staff added in 1985 included a Potato Marketing Coordinator, a Potato Inspector for intra-provincial trade, a Forage Crop Specialist, an Industrial Milk Farm Inspector, and a Weed Control Technician. The Swine Inspection Program, on the other hand, was reduced to a spot-check basis. The National Tri-Partite Beef Stabilization Program was signed late in the year and beef slaughter increased by eight per cent over 1984. The provincial Hog Stabilization Program and new Swine Incentive Program provided financial benefits to hog producers and incentives to increase productivity and production. Staff efforts have emphasized feed grain self-sufficiency, improved forage quality, dairy herd productivity and milk quality, beef cow-calf productivity, potato productivity and marketing, hay marketing and farm financial management. Farmers have participated well in all of these endeavours.

I would like to thank farmers and farm organizations for their excellent co-operation in working with our dedicated staff towards common objectives. The efforts of the staff of Agriculture Canada have also been appreciated.

The details of all programs are included in the report of each Branch.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Lloyd Palmer



Animal Industry Services Branch

The Animal Industry Service Branch is responsible for the health related productivitiy of P.E.I. livestock. The Branch operates diagnostic services and provides advisory and technical service for livestock producers and veterinarians. The Branch is responsible for administering veterinary and meat inspection services and for supplying veterinary pathology, veterinary microbiology and disease monitoring services.

The Branch is also responsible for Dairy Quality Control and Milk analyses for payment. Dairy Microbiology Services are carried out and grants are administered to the P.E.I. Humane Society and Artifical Breeders Association.

Herd Health Program Continues Upward Trend

Veterinarians across the province delivered preventative medicine programs to Dairy, Beef, Swine and Sheep producers in increasing numbers. Twenty-two veterinarians located in six practises provided 6,564 Herd Health visits, an increase of 15 per cent over the previous year. The decreasing number of visits for clinical calls to diseased animals reduced to 13,741 in 1985, the lowest number for the past seven years. The trend towards preventative programs continues to provide producers with management systems that reduce clinical disease losses in their livestock operations.

The Meat Inspection Program is delivered province wide to 20 local slaughterhouse operations. In the past year 9,623 cattle, 4,519 hogs and 1,262 sheep and lambs were inspected in these licensed abbatoirs. This number is very similar to 1984 figures. The Meat Inspection Program is a cooperative effort with the Provincial Department of Health and continues to ensure the house holders of P.E.I. a quality product identified by the P.E.I. Approved stamp.

Disease Monitoring Services Provide Surveillance

The Swine Inspection and quarantine stations continue to guard against the importation of infectious and contagious diseases that could be devasting to the Provincial Swine herd. One inspector is currently conducting spot checks at both Wood Islands and Borden, P.E.I. The introduction of swine under four months of age requires quarantine, while quarantine is voluntary for animals of breeding age. There are currently two quarantine stations on P.E.I.

A significant increase in the demand for slaughter checks by swine producers was seen during 1985. These checks provide accurate information on the levels of enzootic pneumonia, atrophic rhinitis and internal parasites. This information is necessary for the development of preventative medicine programs to reduce the economic losses producers suffer as a result of these named diseases. The increased demand for checks was as a result of increased interest to convert to minimal disease swine operations.

The ongoing herd certification for minimal disease swine operations and disease investigations in all species of livestock are carried out by the department veterinarians and the swine field technician. Field veterinary staff plus the diagnostic laboratories continue the day to day surveillance of disease incidence on P.E.I.

Veterinary Pathology Workload Increases

The Pathology Laboratory staff processed 6,109 consignments for diagnosis in the past twelve month period, an increase of 10 per cent compared to '84.

The specimens submitted were from all species including wildlife such as beaver, deer and coyote. The major numbers of submissions were from cattle, hogs and sheep and diseases diagnosed related primarily to management, nutrition and infectious agents. The most common diagnoses of the bovine species were pneumonias and neo-natal scours, from pigs again scours was the most common problem and for sheep the nutritionally related White Muscle Disease was prominent.

Toxicoses or poisonings due to ragwort and lead were again diagnosed but in relatively small numbers compared to the above mentioned diseases.

Diagnoses of special interest and confirmed by our pathologists and laboratory staff were cryptosporidiosis in calves, campylobacter abortions in sheep, Tyzzer's disease in a foal, an outbreak of fowl cholera in a turkey flock, histomoniasis in chickens, avian tuberculosis in a small poultry flock, an outbreak of canine distemper on a fox ranch as well as chronic demyelinating encephalomyelitis in a ewe (visna).

Veterinarians practising throughout P.E.I. continue to rely heavily on the diagnostic services and support provided by the Veterinary Pathology and Microbiology Laboratories, to provide quality Veterinary Services to P.E.I. Livestock.

Veterinary Microbiology Laboratory

The Microbiology Laboratory processed 27,601 individual specimens in 1985 consisting of 4,127 diagnostic; 8,324 mastitis; 7,097 somatic cell and 8,053 quality control specimens. The quality control specimens include: 2,261 standard plate counts; 5,792 plate loop counts; and 7,097 antibiotic tests of which 41 were positive for penicillin and three for other antibiotics or inhibitors. The processing of these specimens required 25,076 tubes and/or plates of media.

The total number of specimens processed reflects a reduction in total quality control specimens submitted. The decrease is five per cent in the total number of specimens received over the past year.

A brief update on the somatic cell program shows some improvement over the past two years. In 1985, 53 per cent of the bulk tank somatic cell counts were under 600,000 cells/ml while in 1984 statistics placed 49 per cent under the 600,000 cells/ml category.

Our province wide average for the past year was 651,000 cells/ml. on Bulk Tank Samples.

Dairy Quality Control Laboratory

Dairy Farm Inspection — Early in 1985, a new dairy Farm Inspection Report was brought into use. This new form reflects both the facilities in place as well as the sanitary condition of all areas related to quality milk production. The conditions are reflected by numerical scores as opposed to a good, fair, or poor evaluation and the result is a weighted average score for the individual farm.

All milk producers in the province, through provisions of the Milk Act, may be inspected as often as deemed necessary by the Department. It was originally intended at the beginning of 1985 to inspect all producers using the new reporting form, however, our Inspection staff, in combining in-depth farm inspections and followups along with other required duties, were unable to inspect all Industrial producers at least once during 1985. Although this method of inspection may appear to be quite critical of a producer's facility, it is supported by regulation and complements the enforcement of the minimum provisions of the Regulations. In general, this program of more intensive farm inspection has been well received and supported by the Industry and it's success is reflected in the change of conditions found on many dairy farms. All Class I producers have been inspected using the new forms, while approximately 78 per cent of Industrial producers have been inspected at least once.

Milk Production & Utilization — Total milk production — December 1984 — November 1985 was approximately 94.7 million litres, an increase of approximately 2.7 per cent over a similar period last year. Production of 87.9 million litres in the pure figure of producer shipments to plants. Of this 87.9 million litres, 13.6 million litres is considered as Fluid sales (Class I producer's production sold as Fluid Milk in Province). This does not include Fluid Milk surplus to the Class I market sold as Industrial milk; this figure is included in the total Industrial milk production. A total of 74.3 million litres is considered as Industrial milk shipments, and 6.8 million litres is considered as cream shipments (in milk equivalents).

In P.E.I. there are 832 milk producers, a decrease of 4.8 per cent from 1984. Of the 832 producers, 155 are Class I producers (Fluid), 444 are Industrial producers and 233 are cream producers.

Creamery butter production (Jan.-Nov. 1985) was .88 million kilograms which is a decrease of 26 per cent over the previous year. Weight certificates were issued for 23.8 thousand kilograms of skim milk powder during 1985. Total cheddar cheese production is manufactured at Amalgamated Dairies Ltd. in Summerside. Cheddar cheese production increased approximately 14.9 per cent over the same period in 1984. Total litres of Ice Cream Mix manufactured amounted to 2.46 million litres, an increase of 23 per cent over the same period last year (Jan.-Nov.). Two plants did not report ice cream mix statistics. Whey butter production amounted to 89.6 thousand kilograms (Jan.-Nov./85), a 38.9 per cent increase over 1984.

During 1985 12 manufacturing plant licenses were issued to five creameries, two industrial plants and five fluid plants that also process manufactured milk products. In addition, there are two Fluid plants which process only Class I milk.

Provincial Diary staff, in cooperation with Agriculture Canada Dairy Division officials conducted In-Depth Plant Inspections on all milk and cream processing plants in P.E.I. As well, follow up inspections were conducted on four plants which failed to meet a 77.4 per cent score on the initial inspection.

During 1985 four persons from P.E.I. engaged in Bulk Milk Transportation successfully completed a Bulk Tank Graders Course and were subsequently issued a license permitting them to pick up and transport bulk milk in the province.

A Plate Loop Count is performed on all Industrial Milk Shippers, while Class I bacterial numbers are determined by Standard Plate Method. These analyses are conducted on each producer on a monthly basis, with those producers who exceed the regulations being rechecked seven to 10 days after exceeding the regulations.

During the period Jan.-Dec. 1985, 8000 producer samples were analyzed for bacterial numbers. Approxi-

mately two per cent of Industrial and Class I producers exceeded the regulated maximum allowable bacterial count of 300,000/ml and 100,000/ml respectively. Approximately 68 per cent of Industrial producers samples had bacteria counts less than 30,000/ml while 43 per cent of Class I producer samples were less than 3,000/ml.

All producer's milk samples submitted to the Laboratory were analyzed for the presence of Antibiotic Inhibotors (7700 samples) by the modified I.D.F. method using the B. stearothermophilus organism. Detectibility to 0.0025 I.U. is possible with this method. Penicillin was confirmed in 59 per cent of producer's samples. At present there is no monetary pentaly for presence of antibiotic inhibitors. All producer's samples were analyzed for adulteration (6600 samples) on a monthly basis. This analysis, based on the freezing point determination of raw milk, will indicate the presence and amount of added water in milk. Approximately 0.67 per cent of producer samples were found to contain some added water.

Our inspection staff visits all producers who exceed the regulated bacterial numbers, and those who have a positive antibiotic or adulteration test result as soon as these results are known: producers are informed by mail as well.

The Dairy Laboratory analyzes all Industrial and Class I producer's butterfat samples for payment basis. Industrial producers are analyzed twice monthly on composite samples, while Class I producers are analyzed once weekly on fresh samples. During 1985 the Dairy Lab analzyed 17,600 butterfat samples for payment; 44,900 samples were analyzed for butterfat and protein content for the D.H.A.S. program; 120 butter samples were obtained for yeast and mold analysis, 650 cream samples were check-tested for accuracy and approximately 1200 cans of cream were graded at P.E.I. Creameries.

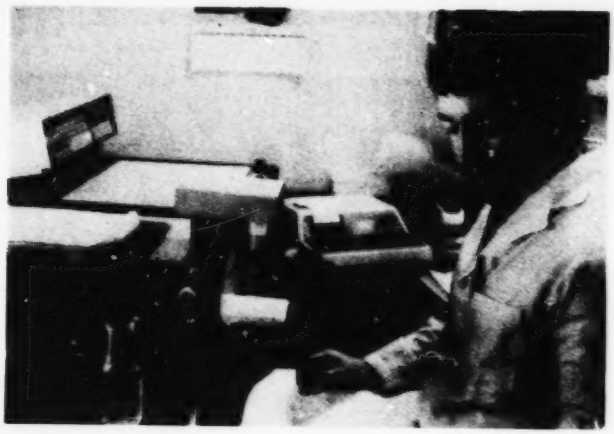
The present regulations governing bacterial population in raw milk are as follows:

Industrial Milk

Grade A —	300,000 bacteria/ml
Grade B —	300,000 bacteria/ml

Fluid Milk

Grade A —	100,000 bacteria/ml
Grade B —	100,000 bacteria/ml



Technicians provide quality control in the Dairy Laboratory.

Extension Services Branch

The Extension Services Branch contributes to the development of agriculture in Prince Edward Island by:

1. *providing technical information and skills training in farm production, management and marketing;*
2. *providing management programs and services and individual farm and home management counselling to farm families to assist them in making the best use of finances and other resources to improve their net income and the productivitiy and efficiency of their farm operations;*
3. *assisting youth and farm organizations to increase the effectiveness of their programs and the leadership skills of their executive and members;*
4. *implementing agricultural assistance programs and policies to encourage the development and the use of quality livestock and cropping programs.*

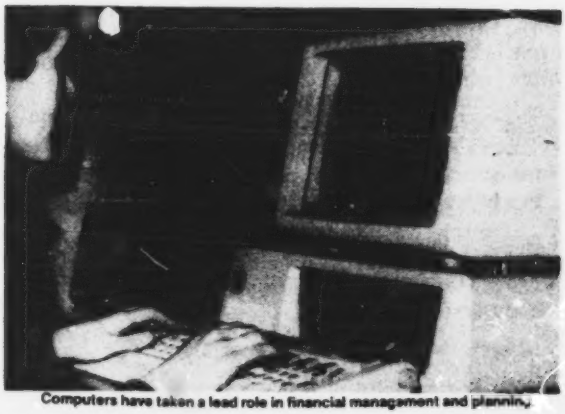
The Extension Services Branch consists of a team effort between specialized extension resource groups (i.e. Crops, Engineering, Livestock, Rural Development, Small Farms and the District Agricultural Offices in West Prince, Summerside, Souris, Charlottetown and Montague.

Program Direction

A) In 1985 Farm Financial Management programs continued to be a priority. This series of training activities included courses based on cost of production studies, by commodity, followed by individual counselling. This emphasis on costs, returns and financial management involved both the district management and specialist extension staff in a combined effort to focus all extension programs on the financial management of each commodity.

B) Livestock, crops and engineering programs continue to reflect an emphasis on the productivity of the farm unit. Many staff were involved in counselling, providing information and assisting individuals and groups with projects relating to ERDA programs, particularly the Productivity Enhancement Program, and the Soil and Water Conservation Program. There was also more limited involvement by staff in the Crop and Livestock Health and Technology Development Programs.

C) Many staff were involved in the analysis, proposals, budgets, discussions and consultations leading up to the approval of the Swine Incentive Policy and the Cow-Calf Incentive Programs. Later in the year, there was involvement at both the district and provincial levels in information distribution regarding these programs and on-farm follow-up. The increased involvement of farmers in herd health and productivity aspects of these programs has been very encouraging.



Computers have taken a lead role in financial management and planning.

D) Staff at both the district and provincial levels continued to increase their skills in working with computer technology. Additional units in the Livestock Section and the Montague District Office improved access to computers and associated services to the farm populations in productivity and financial management programs. It is anticipated that by the end of the 1985-86 fiscal year, both the Souris and the Summerside District Offices will also be equipped with computers.

E) Staff at the district and provincial levels continued to work closely with farm and related organizations. Included are the Soil and Crop Improvement Association, the P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture, 4-H Clubs and Councils, Breed and Commodity Association, Marketing Boards, Junior Farmers, Women in Support of Agriculture, Womens' Institutes Community Schools, fairs and exhibitions, Cattlemen's Association, etc.

F) Staff of the Crops, Livestock, Engineering and Rural Development Sections continue to be involved on a regional basis with an Atlantic Provinces Committee to identify research needs and to coordinate, where possible, extension activities, programs and staff training opportunities. Many of the publications in farm management, crop and livestock production and engineering are issued on an Atlantic Provinces basis, thus lowering the costs to individual provinces and improving the quality of information through close contacts with research officers in the region. As well, there are regional studies in which staff participate and/or contribute such as the A.I. Study and the Cost of Production Study for Grain. Participation by staff in the work of National Committees such as the Canada Farm Building Plans Service, R.O.P. for Beef, Swine, Sheep, SeCan, and Canadian Seed Growers Association, is also an important part of on-going work.

Farm Development Section

The Farm Development Section contributes to the development of agriculture in Prince Edward Island through:

1) The coordination and implementation of the Beginning Farmers Interest Rebate Program;
2) the coordination of Productivity Enhancement Program projects within the department;
3) cost-of-production studies on agricultural commodities and the development of support materials, including computer programs for financial management training and counselling activities;
4) research and analysis of agricultural policies.

Some of the projects which were worked on re credit and tax reform were as follows:

1) update on the credit and financial situation of farmers doing business with government credit agencies in the province;
2) recommendations to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs;
3) review of the Land Development Corporation's policy pertaining to cost of purchases and leasing land and the under-utilization of land;
4) the Federation of Agriculture's review of the Farm Credit Corporation's policy and the provincial financial situation and recommendations to the federal and provincial governments re changes that should be considered.

A benefit cost analysis re the new meat processing plant for red meats was carried out with the assistance of Sandy Stewart and Sandy Griswold.

The Beginning Farmers Interest Rebate Program became effective April 1, 1985 to encourage qualified and aggressive new entrepreneurs to enter into farming by providing up to a four per cent interest rebate on long and intermediate credit to reduce the interest rate to 10 per cent. The interest rate has fallen to the point where there is no rebate available to property leased through the Land Development Corporation. Todate there have been 10 applications processed under the program with six being approved, three rejected and one eligible pending. The average approved investment per individual was $58,000 with the average rebate of approximately 1.9 per cent interest or $1,087 rebate per individual.

The Commodity Development Incentives Program Appeals Board held five meetings and dealt with 77 cases which included 42 appeals and 35 default cases. Repayment of grant was received from five defaulters to the value of $8,029.00.

The Potato and Tobacco Crop Insurance Appeals Board held a total of five meetings dealing with five different appeals of which four were on the Board's agenda more than once. Three of the five appeals were approved and two were rejected.

The cost-of-production data was gathered for dairy, swine, potato and foxes. Preliminary work was done re a cow-calf study. The following is a summary of the four commodities:

Commodity	Farmers Contacted	Number Surveyed
Dairy	38	23
Swine	42	18
Potato	33	16
Foxes	47	13

The Productivity Enhancement Program was an active program. Under this program persons from department staff were designated as resource and advisory persons for projects proposed under this federal program. Sixty-five projects were formally handled and reviewed. Decisions to-date are as follows: 19 approved; 19 withdrawn, 23 rejected; three under consideration and one transferred. Funding approved for these projects is $310,306 for the 1985/86 fiscal year and $993,670 for the total project cost. Approved funding under the program to-date is $1,305,893.00

District Agricultural Offices

The Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture has five district agricultural offices which are located in:

1) O'Leary, at the West Prince Regional Services Centre;
2) Summerside, at the East Prince Regional Services Centre;
3) Charlottetown, at the Agricultural Research and Extension Building;
4) Montague, at the Southern Kings and Queens Regional Services Centre; and
5) Souris, at the Eastern Kings Regional Services Centre.

District staff continue to respond to requests for information and to extend production, extension and management information to farm families. A great deal of work also takes place with farm and rural organizations including 4-H and Junior Farmers.

Three new programs were added in 1985. These were:

1) Beginning Farmers Interest Rebate
2) Swine Incentive Program
3) Beef Cow-Calf Incentive Program

West Prince District Office

"In the beef sector, 1985 was extremely active. Ninety-five per cent of the beef producers inquired and applied for the Beef Cow-Calf Development Program.

The Hereford Club during the past year has changed their format on the Easter Beef Sale by setting up a separate club, open to all beef producers to run the sale. The West Prince Easter Beef Show and Sale has achieved quality steers with excellent sales. The sales average was $1.61 for 20 steers."

Additional beef activities in which West Prince District staff were involved include:

1. Encouraged producers to enroll on the beef home testing program;
2. distributed ear tags and registered producers on the Beef Cow-Calf Program;
3. arranged and conducted a pasture tour for West Prince beef producers;
4. arranged and conducted a tour for beef producers to various Cattlemens' Association pasture projects;
5. involved with Maritime Hereford Field Day held on the farm of Alan Warren;
6. involved in the Easter Beef Show in Charlottetown;
7. set up meeting for Cattlemens' Association to discuss the new meat plant;
8. prepared agenda for Beef Day in West Prince;
9. attended six meetings of the Spring Beef Club.

Cereal and Forage — Production was very encouraging this year with excellent results.

Forage production has remained relatively high considering the dry weather the western region experienced. Quality forage is finally being realized as a management tool for high returns in dairy and beef sectors. After years of showing through demonstration plots and budgets, livestock producers realize quality forage results in quality meat and milk production and decreases dependency on purchased feed. This gives further flexibility to control expenditures and production.

The past year over 470 acres of ryegrass, alfalfa and proper pasture seeding were planted. The majority of new seeding completed with the brillion seeder was alfalfa and permanent pasture. Ryegrass which has been the most widely seeded forage for the past four years, has gradually decreased, whereas alfalfa seeding has increased over the past three years. This is very encouraging to see long term quality forage being seeded.

Cereal production in West Prince was excellent — quite the reverse of last year. Yields were about average with some individual varieties and field yieldings well over 100 bu. per acre. This was a much needed cash boost to potato operations. The barley crop had very good TDN and protein showing respectable results compared to other years.

The acreage increased slightly this year. Farmers are definitely trying recommended varieties and various management techniques used by some are showing notable yield increases.

Winter cereal production was a disappointment on the few acres tried. However, producers did see the possibilities with over 120 acres planted to winter wheat this year. This is approximately a ten-fold increase over last year's plantings.

The West Prince Soil and Crop Association has been instrumental in improving cereal and forage production. The re-introduction of kale and grain corn via plots have attracted the attention of these two crops to some operators who now plan to seed small acreages next year.

Potato Production — Activities in this area included:

1. Preparation of the first Potato Financial Management course in the district;
2. seminar on fertilization program;
3. field demonstration on potato tissue sampling and how to interpret results;
4. field sample survey of insect and disease problems;
5. plot demonstration by Soils and Crops using the soil conditioner, Basic H;
6. cashflow programs for financially strapped producers;
7. completed three Agri-Food Marketing applications with regards to the potato sector.

Farm Management remains a priority with the West Prince district office. If possible, they try to work a total management package which includes both the farm and home, to achieve an accurate cashflow forecast for the farm unit. The hardest hit this year has been the potato sector with hogs a close second. The blueberry industry was a disaster to the operators involved. Since the majority do not consider blueberries as their chief source of income, the setback is not as severe as potatoes and hogs.

This year 82 cashflows were completed and variations done within these proposals. One-hundred and seventeen loan calculations, plus six balance sheets were completed. From this total, only three cashflows were completed manually; the majority were completed on programs written for the IBM-PC. With familiarity of the computer, more financial statements and other programs can be done. Therefore more financial trouble situations can be helped and a variety of options that could not be done manually can be discussed.

This year seven credit conferences between farmers, lenders and the district took place. Five business analyses, 13 payroll records and 47 record books were acquired by farmers.

With the IBM computer top quality cashflow statements, income expense statements and net worth statements are possible. Since certain banks charge customers for loan balance, office staff are doing a fair number of loan calculations for the farming community.

This year 10 short courses were offered through the office plus three courses via Holland College approved by our Department where tuition costs were cost-shared. The short courses were:

1. Dairy Financial Management,
2. Dairy Home Study courses (2),
3. Payroll Records,
4. Tractor Maintenance,
5. Cereal Equipment,
6. Forage Equipment,
7. Potato Equipment,
8. Farm Records,
9. Income Tax Management, and
10. Wills and Estate Planning.

The three courses in conjunction with Holland College were:

1. Computer Basics,
2. Advanced Welding, and
3. Basic Welding.

Home Economics — Seminars were the main thrust this year. A total of 59 were completed — 45 by the home economist.

The time devoted to the home economics programs achieved excellent results. Programs included:

1. RSVP,
2. Abby Plan,
3. Time Management, "It's About Time" and "Super Woman on the Farm",
4. Nutritional Programs at the Elementary Schools,
5. Second National Farm Women's Conference plus, the various sub-committees,
6. Distinctively Dairy Workshop,
7. West Prince Farm Women's Spring Conference,
8. W.S.A.,
9. Women's Institutes,
10. 4-H,
11. Microwave Workshop and numbers of follow-up requests,
12. Correspondence "$tep by $tep" program,
13. Island Foods,
14. Financial Management/Budget Presentations,
15. Parliamentary Procedure/Running Better Meetings, and
16. 4-H Leaders' Conference.

The above programs, along with consumer requests, resulted in a heavy, demanding workload schedule.

"Overall, there was a very active and involved year with the agricultural community in West Prince."

Summerside District Office

Some activities that involved the Summerside District Office in 1985 included:

— Three agricultural courses for 31 participants on Farm Carpentry, Payrolls and Workmen's Compensation and Paperflow;

— fourteen agricultural information sessions involving 323 farmers on topics such as Hay Production and Management, Soil and Crop Seminar, Pasture Alternatives Seminar, Alfalfa Management, Estate Planning, Credit Management, Marketing, Home Gardening and Landscaping, Tax Planning, Tissue Testing and Analysis, Use & Safety on Farm Pesticides, Plant Breeders Rights and Tissue Testing Procedures;

— Three tours involving 55 participants included Soils and Crops, Pasture Management and Ragwort Control;

— assisting in instructing three financial management courses — Beef, Potato and Dairy;

— participating in meetings — Hog Incentive Program, Dairy Producers Association, Cattlemens' Association, W.S.A., District 4-H Council, Summerside Lobster Carnival, W.I., A.I., Holstein Field Days, Kensington Community School, Federation of Agriculture, etc;

— coordinated soil and crop plot work. These plots consisted of !ntensive Cereal Production, Winter Wheat Production, Barley Trials, Alfalfa Trials, Soybean Trials and Potato Micro Nutrient Evaluation;

— coordinated use of Brillion Seeder (15 farmers — 500 acres);

— assisted in organizing 1986 Alfalfa P.E.P. project;

— prepared P.E.P. projects for: Use for Hay Preservatives to Control Quality and Custom Work for Round Balers;

- prepared detailed rations for twelve dairy producers;
- participated at Banker's Conference, P.E.I. Horticultural Conference, Maritime Hereford Field Day, etc.;
- Attended Provincial Livestock Exhibition, Alberton Exhibition, Atlantic Winter Fair, Maritime Winter Fair;
- provided Potato Bruise Detection Service;
- assisted 15 producers with tissue testing;
- toured with a number of Europeans interested in buying farms;
- Provided advice on gas tax rebates, Hog Stabilization and Incentive Program, Quota Exchange, Seeding Subsidy, Lime Subsidy, Hay and Silage Competition, Bull, Boar and Ram Bonus, Beef Weaning Weight Program, Garden and Lawn problems, bug identification and control, fertilizer analysis interpretation and recommendation, weed identification and control, grain crop survey, tissue samples, feed and soil testing.

Exhibitions — District staff assisted with planning and officiating at the following exhibitions or fairs. Duties included judging foods and crafts, 4-H exhibits, livestock, etc.

- Summerside Lobster Carnival
- Egmont Bay Exhibition
- Kensington Harvest Festival
- Rural Youth Fair
- Crapaud Exhibition

Home Economics — Provided Nutrition talk to 15 W.I. branches (168 people); Time Management presentation made to four groups (44 people); attended Fall and Spring workshops.

- Country Kitchen Christmas
- shared preparation of printed materials
- coordinated binder production with Queens Printer, i.e. assemble, recipes, proof, ordering, cover design, etc.
- registration, location details for Summerside sessions
- food demonstrations at 4 sessions (450 people)
- Coordinated pork and egg booths at Summerside Food Fair
- Prepared food preservation display and session (32 attendance)
- Registration, location arrangements for two microwave sessions (120 attendance)
- Four Nutrition sessions for assorted groups (78 attendance)
- Four elementary school class visits (144 students)
- One red meat session at a community school (6 students)

Management

- Two sessions at Holland College on home budgeting (26 attendance)
- $tep By $tep Home Study course (35 participants).

Charlottetown District Office

- Staff conducted 10 courses for 165 people, including Financial Management courses in Dairy, Swine and Potatoes.
- Staff conducted eight agricultural information sessions for 122 people, including Forage Fertilization, Silage Production, Alfalfa Production, Hay Production, Pasture Management, etc.
- Staff conducted approximately 30 Home Economics Information sessions for 847 people.

Specific groups that these presentations were made to include: W.I., W.S.A., other womens' groups, Community Schools, Home Economics teachers, pork promoters, Home and School and Junior Farmers.

4-H — The Charlottetown District staff was involved in 4-H programs as follows:

- 15 clubs in 1984-85 — 398 members; 338 completed projects
- district bowling for club members in January, (200 participated)
- Cavendish chosen as "Club of the Year"
- four area and two District Communications rallies held
- District Ice Sports held
- picnic held for 4-H families
- all clubs visited at re-organization and Communications Nights events
- 4-H district newsletter produced bi-monthly.

Other Projects and Items of Interest — carried out by the Charlottetown District office staff:

- A computer program was developed to assist farmers in identifying the costs associated with converting to silage as part of their feeding program; further refinement of this program is continuing to make the program more accurate and representative of on-farm conditions,
- A heifer growth project to track the weight and height of dairy heifers was established,

- Staff were actively involved with organization and operation of the A.I.C. Conference; one staff member presented a paper at a scientific technical session;
- District staff work on various provincial committees such as Department Commodity Teams;
- District staff serve as resource people to groups of senior U.P.E.I. business students who are doing semester projects relating to agriculture;
- A program kit on Time Management, and a promotional kit on beef for use in Community Schools was developed during the year;
- Staff provided information to clients on many specific topics:
  - Forage Establishment and Maintenance
  - Estate Planning
  - Food Preparation and Care
  - Taxation
  - Building Design
  - Government Policies (federal and provincial)
  - Livestock Feeding and Breeding
  - Marketing

Montague District Office

The staff of the Montague District Office continued in 1985 to provide information and assistance on a wide variety of agricultural and home economics topics to the farm families of the area. Some of the highlights are summarized as follows:

- Seven courses were held during 1985 involving approximately 80 people;
- twenty-six Information Sessions were held involving approximately 666 individuals;
- four tours involved 23 farm people;
- the P.E.I. Soil and Crop Improvement Association has 121 members as compared to 100 in 1984, which demonstrates that interest in and support for Soil and Crop is increasing.

"Crop Seminar '85" was the first big Soil & Crop Improvement Association project of the year; it was held in Montague, in cooperation with the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture on January 31, 1985 and was one in a series of five district seminars held across the province. It provided opportunity, locally, to discuss production of cereals, grain corn and soybeans as well as soil management and fertility; approximately 50 people attended.

The Brillion seeder put in its fourth cropping season in the Montague and Souris Districts, with a record number of users and acres.

Instead of our annual plot tour, the Montague District decided to try a Twilight Meeting at Harvey Mitchell's farm in Primrose. The turn-out was good with a total of 40. The field walks consisted of six stops to look at I.C.M. Winter Wheat, Winter Rapeseed, Leger barley, grain corn, soybeans and Winter Wheat variety trials.

Staff involvement with 4-H included advising individual members and leaders, facilitating local club organization, judging at club communication events and Achievement Days, serving as Treasurer to the District Council, organizing district activities and assisting at provincial 4-H functions.

The District staff work with local Women's Institutes, both at the branch level and at the five district conventions; Women in Support of Agriculture; Montague District Federation of Agriculture, Montague District Dairy Producers; and the local Cattlemens' Association members, giving support whenever requested and wherever possible.

Support is given to Dundas Fair, through organization of their 4-H Day; arranging for clerks and clerking livestock classes; arranging for judging for home economics and 4-H classes; and judging home economics classes.

Staff handled inquiries from farmers on various government programs, including Agriculture Canada's five programs; Energy programs, Department of Industry programs; DRIE programs; fuel tax rebates; income tax; and many others. In some cases, it is a simple question to which an answer is sought and given; in others, staff assist farmers in completing applications.

District staff are involved in extending information through mass media such as CornerPost, Country Kitchen/ Country Corner articles, radio and newspaper interviews.

Our 1985 focus on Farm Management was conducting three financial management courses — one in Tobacco, one in Hogs and one in Dairy. These courses were well-rated by participants and follow-up counselling was done with a number of them.

The $tep by $tep Money Management home study course was run for the first time and the interest was impressive. In addition, two presentations on home money management and one on time management were given to community groups.

The district session on "Payroll For Farmers" was successful and two staff from the Montague office continue to serve on the Payroll Committee, preparing fact sheets and course materials.

One of the highlights of the year was the acquisition in July of an IBM-PC computer for the Montague District office. Staff are enjoying learning how to effectively use the computer and look forward to making better use of it as the months go by.

The staff continues to do one-on-one counselling on financial management.

The Farm Management Representative is the provincial contact person for the International Agricultural Exchange Association. A review of the program was conducted by the Calgary officer here, with Heather Tweedy and past trainees. Two applicant interviews were conducted in 1985.

The Montague District Home Economist continues to work as School Milk Coordinator and serves as Secretary for the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Limited.

Recipes for a new lamb publication were taste-tested and three publications (blueberries, raspberries and potato teaching kit) were reviewed for correctness of nutrition content.

A resource person on matters of human nutrition, the District Home Economist participated in nine meetings of the Interdepartmental Nutrition Committee (chaired three meetings), and two conference calls and one meeting of the Atlantic Committee on Nutrition (acted as secretary for this committee). She also attended two meetings of the Dairy Bureau of Canada member-province nutritionists.

A statement on the nutritional value of potatoes in food aid was prepared for the Potato Marketing Officer.

A teaching outline for a community group presentation on calcium was prepared for the District Home Economists.

Souris District Office

Due to a trend of continuing low commodity prices, 1985 has been a year in which financial hardships have become more and more noticeable on district farms. Efforts continued to provide financial information and advice through courses and individual contact.

Beef — Increased contact was made with many of the beef producers in the district. This primarily resulted from the implementation of the new Beef Cow-Calf Policy. While many beef farmers were initially attracted by the financial incentives under the policy, the calf weaning weight information provided by the program generated a lot of interest towards herd improvement.

Swine — While swine farm numbers are not high in this district, the majority of producers are participating in the Swine Incentive Policy. Several farmers are planning or setting up minimal disease herds.

Farm Management — Basic record keeping courses were the main focus in 1985 as a step towards promoting 1986 Financial Management Courses in the potato and dairy commodities.

4-H — The District Home Economics provided continuing support not only for the local 4-H council and clubs but also for many provincial 4-H activities and projects.

Two 4-H promotional workers were hired by the District Council under the Challenge '85 Youth Employment Program.

The Charlottetown Home Economist prepares a special dessert during a Country Kitchen Christmas workshop.

Home Economics — There is continued interest in the area of product promotion, particularly with new recipe ideas. The Microwave and Country Kitchen Christmas Workshops received a tremendous response.

Basic nutrition information has been provided to W.I. and other groups on request through the Abby Plan Program which has met with an excellent response from the community groups.

- Three short courses on farm records, taxation and computers were held with an attendance of 35;
- Thirteen information sessions were held to provide agriculture and home economics information. A total of 434 attended;
- Two farm tours featuring potato storage and ventialation and Ragwort control involved 16 producers;
- The Souris District Soil & Crop Improvement Association involved 96 people at their annual meeting, Crop Seminar '85 and a Farming Without Chemicals information meeting;
- Seven 4-H clubs had a membership of 124 in 1985 with 123 projects completed. Events during the year included 4 Council meetings, 7 newsletters distributed, bowling, curling, ice sports, a pizza party, Leaders' Appreciation Night, a tour for Junior Members, a Seniors' Weekend, District Communications Competitions, an Island Food Project and a Leaders' Project. A total of 15 events attracted 437 participants and made 1985 a very active year for 4-H members.

Rural Development Section

The Rural Development Section contributes to the development of agriculture in Prince Edward Island through:

1) Leadership training as a major focus of the 4-H program and by working with other farm groups in Prince Edward Island.
2) Training opportunities for skill development and other educational events such as courses, workshops, conferences, tours, etc. for young farmers and farm families.
3) Financial assistance programs for students enrolled in vocational, technical and degree programs in agricultural schools and colleges.
4) The development and coordination of farm management information and programs including financial and credit managers, estate planning, taxation and other associated topics.
5) Providing farm experience and training to young people through programs such as the Agri-Crew and the Maritime Farm Certificate Program.

All of the above activities are designed to improve the economic and social conditions on farms, to improve the quality of life of farm families and to assist in making rural Prince Edward Island a better place in which to live and work.

Farm Financial Management Courses By Commodity

A prolonged period of low commodity prices, high real interest rates, collapsing land values, rising input costs and global surpluses in many commodities have created serious emotional and financial stress for a significant number of Island farmers in the past year.

In response to the financial stress experienced in agriculture, the department has continued to offer four-day financial management courses to Island farmers by commodity.

These four-day courses covered topics such as: cost of production figures, the development and analysis of six financial statements and instruments using a case study approach and covered aspects of credit, taxation and estate planning.

4-H Program

The 4-H program objectives in Prince Edward Island are:

"To increase the effectiveness of rural people in group situations by involving them in leadership development and personal development programs."

"To strengthen the total family unit by developing the individual in skills, family relationships, home management and community involvement."

"To help develop viable farm units through instruction in the skills of management, production and marketing of agricultural products."

"To increase the appreciation for agricultural problems, conditions and programs by carrying out a public relations program for consumers, agribusiness, legislators, clientele and future clientele."

Leadership Development

Sending 4-H members on award trip programs has been a tradition for the past 50 years. The majority of National and International programs are sponsored and coordinated by the Canadian 4-H Council. 4-H members were involved in award trip programs at either the Atlantic, National or International level during 1985.

Interprovincial Exchange is sponsored by the Royal Bank of Canada and coordinated by the Canadian 4-H Council. Five Prince Edward Island 4-H members were chosen to travel to five other Canadian provinces.

Member	Club	Destination
John Van Dyke	Summerside	British Columbia
Miriam Adams	North Shore	Saskatchewan
Wanda Lee MacPhee	Seaside	Manitoba
Michelle Gaudet	St. Edward's	Quebec
Gail Tassell	Grand River East	New Brunswick

Citizenship Seminar involved six 4-H members representing Prince Edward Island at this conference. The six delegates were as follows:

Member	Club
Susan Arbing	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield
Sandra Matheson	Brooklyn-Heatherdale
Maribeth Noonan	Albany
Kim Sanderson	Seaside
Marc Vandaele	Whim Road
Joanne Wall	New Annan

Washington Conference — The Canadian 4-H Council sponsors one 4-H member from each province. Prince Edward Island's representative was Joan MacLaurin from the Lot 16 4-H Club. This program is sponsored by Conterra Energy Ltd. and Ambassador Travel Services.

National 4-H Careers Conference — The Conference Program, held in Winnipeg, focused on career counselling. The delegates participated in simulated job interviews with representatives from government and industry, and received counselling on "How to improve your interview and get the job". The delegates from Prince Edward Island were:

Member	Club
Wendy Larsen	Belfast
Jeff Weeks	Pleasant Valley

National 4-H Conference — with the theme, "Forging the Future With 4-H", was held in Toronto at the time of the Royal Winter Fair. Sandra MacKinnon, 4-H Agrologist, attended as the chaperone for the 4-H members attending the Conference. Those attending were:

Member	Club
Bruce Ansems	Whim Road
Ronnie Ford	Wheatley River
Mark MacDonald	Grand River East
Ranald MacFarlane	Freetown
Donna MacLeod	Uigg-Kinross
Geoffrey Matheson	Wheatley River
Jayne Noonan	Albany
Craig Oliver	Elmsdale

European International Tour — During the first two weeks of June, Roddie Milton of the North River 4-H Club and Lloyd Dalziel of the Mermaid-Mt. Herbert 4-H Club toured five European countries. The travel opportunity, sponsored by Canadian International Holidays Incorporated, involved 20 Canadian and 24 U.S. delegates.

Great Britain Shell Exchange Program Stewart Mutch of the Cherrycliffe 4-H Club participated in this prestigious program sponsored by Shell Canada Ltd. He was one of five Canadians selected to experience life in Great Britain for six weeks. In October, the exchange was completed when Glynn Morgan of Herefordshire, England, spent six weeks at the Mutch farm in Earnscliffe.

Danforth Scholarship is a leadership camping program in Michigan, U.S.A., sponsored by Ralston Purina of Canada. Attending this two-week leadership program were Carmen Wyand, Cavendish 4-H Club and Joanne MacLean, Lot 16 4-H Club.

Canadian National Exhibition Scholarship is sponsored by the Canadian National Exhibition. It was awarded to Peter Boswall of Marshfield who is currently enrolled in the Agriculture Degree Program at Nova Scotia Agriculture College.

The Gulf Canada Study Scholarship — This is an annual scholarship established in 1985. Lisa Murphy of the Bayview-Orwell-Orwell Cove 4-H Club received the $1,000 scholarship. She is a first year science student at the University of Prince Edward Island.

Junior Farmer Conference and Exchange — Two Island Junior Farmer members planning a career in farming were selected to attend the annual meeting of the Ontario Junior Farmers' Association.

Byron Andrews	Hunter River
Edward MacAulay	Charlottetown

International Youth Year Conference — Kent Phillips of the Elmsdale 4-H Club spent two weeks in Great Britain in late August.

Inter-American Ibero Rural Youth Conference Only 4-H members having an agricultural background and/or planning to work in agriculture were eligible to apply for this Conference which took place in Washington, D.C. Marilyn Balderston of the North River 4-H Club and Douglas Campbell of the Lot 16 4-H Club were the delegates.

National Rural Youth Conference — For the second time a National Rural Youth Conference was held, this time in Winnipeg. Prince Edward Island sent 11 delegates, five 4-H members and six Junior Farmer delegates. These delegates were:

Junior Farmers	4-H
Leslie Drake	Miriam Adams
Scott Drake	Cindy Kelly
Michael Kelly	Sandra Thompson
Susan MacKinnon	Maurice Vandaele
Gary Nicholson	Janet Younker
Laurie Thompson	

Atlantic 4-H Conference — "Communicating the 4-H Way" was the theme of the 1985 Conference held in Halifax. The delegates focussed on learning communication skills that could be used at their club, district and provincial levels.

The Atlantic level of the Public Speaking and Demonstration Competition was held at this Conference The P.E.I. competitors and their placings were as follows:

Donna MacLeod	Senior Public Speaking	Merit
Edward Lank	Junior Public Speaking	Second
Renee Murphy	Single Demonstration	Second
Lisa Ostridge & Lori Ann Dunn	Double Demonstration	First

Provincial 4-H Camp This year's summer camp was held at Camp Abegweit in Augustine Cove, from June 24-28, with 110 4-H members attending. The theme was "Exploring 4-H". This program consisted of two camps:

Provincial Executive Workshop — In 1985 the Provincial 4-H Office organized a Provincial 4-H Executive Workshop for 125 executives of the 4-H clubs and district 4-H leader councils.

Leader Travel Opportunities — 1985 also had educational opportunities for 4-H leaders. Trips to Toronto, Washington, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, etc. broadened the knowledge and interest of Island 4-H leaders.

National 4-H Leaders' Conference — The sixth annual Leaders' Conference was held in Toronto from November 6-10. The Leaders' Conference was held in conjunction with the National Members' Conference.

Five leaders from each province participated in this National 4-H Leaders' Conference. The delegation from Prince Edward Island was:

Anthony Cannon	Village Green 4-H Club
Bernadette Coughlin	O'Leary 4-H Club
Sylvia Matheson	Wheatley River 4-H Club
Gwen Thompson	Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club
Lorna Thompson	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club

Washington Leaders' Conference — Four 4-H leaders participated in the Washington Leaders' Conference in 1985. In April, Elizabeth Arbing of the Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club and Mette Ching of the Eastern Clovers 4-H Club, participated in a forum aimed at teaching leaders to be more effecitve in working with 4-H members. In October, Nancy Orr of the Cavendish 4-H Club and Georgina MacDonald of the Tri-Com 4-H Club, attended a forum entitled, "Adults Working With Adults".

Manitoba Leaders' Conference — Gayle Wyand of the Cavendish 4-H Club and Barbara Doughart of the Tri-Com 4-H Club travelled to Winnipeg in March to attend the Manitoba 4-H Council Annual Meeting and Leaders' Conference.

Saskatchewan Leaders' Conference — Two Island leaders, Heather Dixon of the North River 4-H Club and Georgina MacDonald of the Tri-Com 4-H Club, attended the Leaders' Conference and Annual Meeting in Saskatachewan in March

Prince Edward Island 4-H Council — The 4-H Council is now in its twelfth year. The officers for 1985 were as follows:

Officers	Positions
Brian Dingwell Souris District	President
Kay Wall Summerside District	Vice-President
Gwyneth Jones Dept. of Agriculture	Secretary-Treasurer

Program and Travel — Nancy Orr, Chairperson of the Program and Travel Committee, conducted its activities. The Provincial Communications Competitions were held in May and the Provincial Champions were:

Name	Section	Club
Justin MacLeod	Junior Public Speaking	Uigg-Kinross
Edward Lank	Intermediate Public Speaking	Wheatley River
Donna MacLeod	Senior Public Speaking	Uigg-Kinross
Renee Murphy	Single Demonstration	East End Circle
Lisa Ostridge & Lori Ann Dunn	Double Demonstration	Fort Augustus

Donna MacLeod was awarded the R.T. Holman trophy as the Provincial Public Speaking Champion.

The Program and Travel Committee is responsible for the annual $1,000 Provincial Council Scholarship. The scholarship was awarded to Nancy MacKenzie of the Millview-Vernon River 4-H Club by Brian Dingwell, President of the Provincial 4-H Council.

The Program and Travel Commitee sponsored a trip to the Nova Scotia 4-H Show in Truro. Eileen Peters from the Springfield 4-H Club was this year's delegate.

Prince Edward Island 4-H Leaders' Conference and Annual Meeting — The Leaders' Conference and Annual Meeting was held February 8 and 9 in Charlottetown. This year's Leaders' Conference attracted 50 4-H leaders.

The Provincial Annual Awards Banquet saw Cloverleaf 4-H Club receive the Agro Co-op trophy for the Most Improved Club of the Year. The following leaders received certificates for five, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years' of 4-H leadership:

Five-Year Certificates

Jean Annear	Brooklyn-Heatherdale
Keith Barrett	Lot 16
Alex Dixon	North River
Cheryl Good	Fort Augustus
Brenda Johnston	Grand River East
Anne MacDonald	Chepstow-Little Harbour
Leonard MacDonald	Chepstow-Little Harbour
Kay MacIsaac	Souris West
Carol MacLeod	Brooklyn-Heatherdale
Ian MacIsaac	Mermaid-Mt. Herbert
Marion Murphy	St. Ann's
Mary Leah Trainor	Mermaid-Mt. Herbert
David Younker	North River
Sidney Watts	Brooklyn-Heatherdale
Carol Weeks	Pleasant Valley
Robert Wood	Mermaid-Mt. Herbert

Ten-Year Certificates

Barry Beck	Brooklyn-Heatherdale
Helen Cairns	Freetown
Alan Godfrey	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield
Evelyn Larter	Hampshire
Stewart MacRae	Wheatley River
Betty Ostridge	Fort Augustus
Joyce Simmons	Tri-Com
Donna Thompson	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield
Jessie Thompson	Tri-Com 4-H Club

Fifteen-Year Certificates

Lorraine Noonan	Albany
Helen Roberts	Wheatley River

Twenty-Year Certificate

Reta Ling	Wheatley River

Twenty-Five Year Certificate

Mildred Campbell	Cheptstow-Little Harbour

The "Friend of 4-H Award" for 1985 was presented to David Tingley of Ralston Purnia.

Family Life

The Provincial 4-H Home Economist works with the 4-H Home Economics Projects Committee. There were three meetings of this group in 1985. Any project changes, including books, Achievement Day and Exhibition Requirements, which this committee decides upon are implemented by the provincial Home Economist.

Island Foods Project — During the past year, two 4-H Island Foods Projects were held with a total of 28 4-H'ers from the Souris and Charlottetown Districts completing this project.

Agriculture

Eartags — The 4-H staff kept a complete list of 4-H project animals' eartags or tattoo numbers.

Market Steer Shows — As part of the requirements for the Market Steer Project members attended a Fitting and Showmanship Workshop.

Thirty-four 4-H members completed the Steer Project with only seven steers culled.

Kenny Mutch from the Cherrycliffe 4-H Club received a price of $2.85/pound for his Champion 4-H steer shown at th Eastern Beef Show and Sale in Charlottetown while Melanie Warren of the Elmsdale 4-H Club exhibited the Champion 4-H Steer of the Prince County Spring Beef Show. She received a price of $1.93/pound for her animal.

Exhibition Book — The 4-H staff produced the annual Exhibition Book which was sent to all 4-H families.

The Prince Edward Island representatives to the Contact Hays Classics were:

Derwin Clow	Freeton
Lowell Seaman	Springfield
Charles Dickieson	Cavendish
Karen Thompson	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield
Jacinta MacDonald	Morell

Guy Thompson accompanied the group as their chaperone. While the 4-H staff organized the selection of calves. This is a project of the Maritime Holstein Assoc.

New and Revised Projects — New and revised projects produced by the Agriculture and Home Economics Committees and the 4-H staff:

Agriculture

Revised
- Beef I Manual & Record Book
- Market Steer Manual and Record Book
- Woodworking I
- Rabbits I
- Financial Assistance Book

Pilot
- Pheasant

Home Economics

New
- **Crochet II — Hat and Mittens**

Revised
- Food & You I
- Great Beginnings
- Junior Leadership
- Sweaters to Knit or Crochet
- Seasonal Decorations

Other New and Revised Books

- Leaders' Manual
- Exhibition Book
- Rural Youth Fair Book
- Achievement Day Kits

Exhibitions — Provincial 4-H staff directly ran 4-H classes at the Provincial Exhibition and the Rural Youth Fair as well as running the Provincial Judging Competitions. Provincial staff also assisted District Agriculture staff at the Summerside Lobster Carnival, Crapaud Exhibition, Alberton Exhibition, Kensington Harvest Festival, Dundas Plowing Match and the Souris Exhibition.

Drop-In Centre — The 4-H Drop-In Centre was opened for nine days during the Provincial Exhibition with a total of 30 members acting as hosts and hostesses and one leader as full time chaperone.

4-H Provincial Livestock Judging Competition
This year, the competition was modified to bring it into line with the competition held at the Maritime Winter Fair. Competitors were asked to evaluate and judge seven classes — 2 beef, 2 dairy, 1 sheep, 1 swine and 1 horse.

The winning senior competitors were:

Darla Clow — Freetown
Shelley MacDonald — Kensington
Kent Molyneaux — Cornwall

Due to commitments, only one of the original three-member team was able to participate in the Ontario Judging Competition. Shelley MacDonald, Paul Stewart and Kevin Kelly represented Prince Edward Island in the Ontario Junior Farmers' Livestock Judging Competition held in November during the Royal Winter Fair.

In the Ontario competition, Shelley MacDonald was selected the Top Livestock Judge over 90 other contestants.

Judging Clinics — During June and July the Provincial 4-H Office organized two livestock judging clinics with 4-H'ers, Junior Farmers and Young Farmers. Approximately 65 people participate in the clinics.

Tractor Safety Workshops — In cooperation with the Federation of Agriculture Farm Safety Committee, the Provincial 4-H office staff organized two Tractor Safety Workshops. The first was held in Charlottetown in mid-June, while the other was held in Summerside during late July. Approximately 40 people participated in the workshops.

United States National 4-H Dairy Conference
The Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture, the Provincial 4-H Council, the Prince Edward Island Holstein Breeders and the Prince Edward Island Milk Producers' Association collaborated to send two 4-H members to the United States Dairy Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. The selected delegates were Bruce Wood, Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club; and Cathy Vickerson, North River 4-H Club.

4-H Day at the Maritime Winter Fair — Prince Edward Island sent delegates to compete in the 4-H classes at the Maritime Winter Fair. Twenty-seven 4-H members represented Prince Edward Island in 16 classes in Moncton.

Rural Youth Fair — The 35th Annual Rural Youth Fair was held September 7 at the Provincial Exhibition Grounds. The fair was opened to all 4-H members who successfully completed their project, with approximately 500 projects being exhibited.

An action-packed program had more than 300 4-H members participating in events such as a tractor rodeo, races, club displays, showmanship competition, as well as horse, calf, goat, swine and rabbit classes.

The 1985 Rural Youth Fair had the following new activities added to the event:

— entertainment provided by the Souris District Council,
— a Vegetable Preparation Competition organized by the Summerside District Council,
— a noon lunch was served by the Wheatley River 4-H Club representing the Charlottetown District Council,
— farm safety films were shown,
— tug-of-war competition organized by West Prince District Council, and a
— tractor rodeo run by Montague District Council.

Tractor Rodeo — Once again, provincial 4-H staff assisted district staff in tractor rodeos at Alberton, Summerside, Crapaud, Dundas and Souris Exhibitions.

The top junior and the top senior participants then came to Charlottetown to compete at the Rural Youth Fair. The winners of this competition were: Junior — Peter Larsen, Albany and Senior — Stephen Howatt, Freetown.

'85 Special — A new class for 10-year-old beef and dairy members was held at the Rural Youth Fair this year. Senior 4-H livestock members and livestock leaders were each assigned two 4-H members with whom to work. Instruction covered the areas of fitting and grooming, sportsmanship and showmanship. During the 30-minute session with member and calf, emphasis was placed on learning rather than competition. Approximately 25 4-H members participated.

Agribition 1985 — The Atlantic 4-H Committee continues to send a Maritime judging team of four members to the International 4-H Judging Seminar held each fall at Agribition in Regina, Saskatchewan. The 4-H member from Prince Edward Island was Stephen Howatt of the Freetown 4-Club.

Contact Hays Classic — In recognition of 1985 being "International Year of Youth", the Contact Hays Classic was invited to the Royal Winter Fair.

Public Relations

Media Coverage — There were 52 4-H radio programs produced as a regular Saturday show. These shows are aired on the four local radio stations. Periodically, radio interviews were recorded for Farm Report to advertise special upcoming events.

The monthly newsletter, "Leaders' Line" was mailed to all 4-H leaders and district 4-H staff from the provincial 4-H office.

The provincial 4-H staff also contributed articles to the Department of Agriculture's monthly publication, "Corner Post", plus articles and media releases about various provincial 4-H activities were distributed.

Chris & Christa Clover — The two summer students developed a skit and information package for presentation and distribution at Achievement Days, Exhibitions, field days and camps.

Altantic 4-H Committee — The Atlantic 4-H Committee was responsible for three programs this year: the Atlantic 4-H Conference, 4-H Day at the Maritime Winter Fair and 1985 International 4-H Judging Seminar.

Canadian 4-H Council — The Canadian 4-H Council is a non-profit organization whose primary responsibilities include administering national and international programs for 4-H members, providing a variety of services to 4-H and the provincial agencies that administer 4-H across Canada and facilitating the exchange of information and ideas about 4-H programs and activities. The Council sponsored 35 programs for Island 4-H members and leaders.

The Canadian 4-H Council in 1985 continued the enthusiastic promotion campaign. The theme is "Grow With Us — the One and Only 4-H Club", while its two-year sub-theme is "Join the 'H' Team". In 1985, the committee developed TV ads for potential members and leaders.

In 1985, the Canadian 4-H Council offered two trips to 4-H members to celebrate International Year of the Youth. The first conference took place in Great Britain in August while the second conference was held in Washington, D.C. in October.

International Year of The Youth — For International Year of the Youth (1985), an Island committee of provincial youth agencies was formed. This committee organized and held a P.E.I. Youth Parliament in November, 1985. Representing 4-H on this committee was Gwyneth Jones, 4-H Coordinator.

Training

A. Policies 1 & 2

These policies are designed to encourage and assist Islanders to obtain training in technical and professional agriculture and to ensure a continuing supply of trained people for the agricultural industry. Under Policy 1, NSAC received reimbursement for the cost of providing technical training to Prince Edward Island students.

Those already engaged in agriculture are assisted through Policy 1 and in taking approved correspondence courses related to agricultural production and marketing. In 1985 those who are enrolled in the Maritime Farm Certificate Program and who are not eligible for assistance through CEIC may also obtain assistance.

Following are the numbers assisted in 1985 by Policy 1: (1984 in brackets)

NSAC students	38	(32)
Correspondence Course students	2	(0)
Maritime Farm Certificate Program	40	(0)
Total	40	(32)

Policy 2 assists those Prince Edward Island students engaged in studies leading to a Bachelors degree in Agriculture, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, or Bachelor of Agricultural Education. Following are the numbers assisted in 1985 by Policy 2: (1984 in brackets)

NSAC students	23	(18)
University of Guelph	1	(1)
Macdonald College	2	(3)
Ontario Veterinary College	6	(10)
Total	32	(32)

B. Farm Organization Policy:

The Prince Edward Island Federation of Agriculture, the National Farmers' Union, the Prince Edward Island Junior Farmers' Organization and the Women in Support of Agriculture submitted projects for funding under the Farm Organization Policy.

The Federation of Agriculture received approval for a Farm Safety Project as well as the following:

- participation in Public Debate on "Challenges and Choices";
- plant Breeders' Rights Workshop;
- information program on ERDA Agreement;
- lobby for changes in Feed Freight Assistance Program;
- development of New Farmer, Interest Subsidy, and Capital Grants Program;
- involvment in Procuring new Livestock Killing Plant;
- bi-weekly newsletter;
- study of Agricultural Trade Fair;
- Canadian Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting in February, 1985.

The following projects were approved by the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture for the National Farmers' Union:

- Agriculture Then and Now — The NFA Then and Now — An Evaluation and a Review of the Past Fifteen Years;
- Local Development Program;
- Farm Tour for NFU National Convention Delegates;
- Canadian International Grains Institute Conference;
- Grand Falls Potato Conference;
- Youth Leadership Project;
- Soil Conservation/Ecological Production;
- Agriculture in Transition.

The following projects were approved by the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture for the P.E.I. Junior Farmers' Organization:

- evening sessions;
- P.E.I. Junior Farmers' Annual Meeting and Conference;
- additional costs of printing and production of filmstrip

The following projects were approved by the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture for the Women In Support of Agriculture:

- fall and spring conferences
- farm tours
- leadership courses and workshops
- Annual Meeting
- National Conferences
  - Turning Point
  - Fruit and Vegetable Wholesalers
  - Canadian Horticultural Council

C. Agri-Crew:

One-hundred and twenty farmers obtained the services of Agri-crew in the summer of 1985. An Agri-crew is a crew of four students available to work for farm families for up to five days at rock-picking, fencing, painting, brush-clearing, or other work for which a farmer would not normally hire labour.

D. Resource Centres:

The Rural Development Section continued to staff the Farm Centre Resource Centre during 1985.

The Farm Center Resource Centre continued to be used extensively. Films, slide sets, equipment and books were loaned each day to home economics and agriculture teachers, to department staff, farm organizations and individuals. The Farm Safety Committee also made extensive use of the slide sets and films.

This section also continued to be responsible for the ordering of materials for all five Resource Centers. This included books, audio-visual materials and periodicals.

E. Regular Training Budget:

District Tours: A number of commodity specific district courses and tours within the province were held for farmers, organized by district staff and others.

Farm Business For Farm Women Conference: One hundred and ten women attended the Sixth Annual Farm Business for Farm Women Conference on January 23rd and 24th. The theme was "Women in Agriculture — Growing Greater" — The keynote speakers were: Dr. Val Farmer and Pat Leimbach.

Second National Farm Women's Conference: More than 300 farm women from across Canada attended the Second National Farm Women's Conference held in Charlottetown November 21-24.

This conference was organized by Prince Edward Island Women In Support of Agriculture with cooperation from a representative from each province.

The theme, "Farm Women — Networking For Action", was evident in the results of the conference.

The conference met its goals which were:

1) To establish a network of farm women from across Canada;
2) To initiate a change in the financial situation in family farms through networking, lobbying and education of farm women;
3) To create an awareness among farmers, consumers and governments of the importance of Canada's agriculture industry.

Farm Welding and Farm Carpentry Courses: The Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with Holland College, offered during January, February and March of 1985, part-time farm welding courses to four farmers in West Prince, and a part-time farm carpentry course to eight farmers in Summerside. After the farmers had successfully completed the courses, the Department of Agriculture reimbursed each farmer 75 per cent of their tuition for the welding course and 50 per cent for the carpentry course.

Resource People for Training Programs: The Rural Development Section funded the costs of out-of-province resource people for various Information Days and Conferences including:

— Wm. Craig, Nova Scotia, for a Tree Fruits course in April;
— Doug Doohan, New Brunswick, for a Blueberry Field Day in August;
— R. Samson, Quebec, for the Annual Meeting of the Sheep Breeders;
— J. McDougall and Bob Lang of Ontario for Dairy Days in November.

Out-of-Province Conference and Tours: The Rural Development Section funded part of the cost of sending farmers to various conferences and tours out of the province in 1985. These persons were funded for educational purposes — either for individual training or for information to be brought back to the industry. These included:

— eight persons to visit the Bull Test Station in Nappan, N.S.;
— one person to attend a Cheese Production Course in Guelph, Ont.;
— three persons to attend the Nova Scotia Greenhouse Growers Annual Meeting in Kentiville, Nova Scotia;
— forty people to attend a Grape Tour of the Annapolis Valley;
— nine persons to attend an Organic Grower Conference in Nova Scotia;
— nine persons to attend a vegetable tour of Quebec;
— four persons to attend the New England Vegetable Conference in Foxborough, Mass.;
— four persons to attend the Nova Scotia Farm Management Conference in Halifax in February;
— one person to attend Agriculture in Transition Conference in Lindsay, Ontario, in March;
— nine persons to attend Dairy Seminar in Moncton, in February;
— one person to the North American Strawberry Growers' Meeting in Toronto, in February;
— two persons to attend Tobacco Workers Conference in North Carolina in January.

F. Agricultural Manpower Committee:

The Prince Edward Island Agricultural Manpower Committee held two meetings during the past year. The main purpose of the committee is training programs for farmers and farm workers.

Agri-Crew Project — This summer employment program has been offered for the past three years with the cooperation of CEIC, the P.E.I. Department of Industry and the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture. The Agri-Crews have been adapted from a similar program offered in the province of Ontario.

The cost to the department was about $5,000 per year with the department supplying supervision, training, coordination and information regarding the program.

Costs of the coordinator of the program were shared with CEIC under the Agricultural Manpower Agreement.

Institutional Training — The number of students and courses relating to agricultural development in Prince Edward Island continues at a low level of activity.

As well, a small number of students from Prince Edward Island attended vocational courses offered at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in Truro, i.e. 15 in 1983-84

Funding — the first year of the Maritime Farm Certificate Program is funded under the Institutional Training Program through Nova Scotia Agricultural College in agreement similar to that worked out for the Atlantic Police Academy, Martime Forest Ranger School, etc. Year Two of the Maritime Farm Certificate Program is funded in an arrangement similar to that used for vocational and technical training in the Atlantic Region, i.e., the province will be billed by NSAC for the cost of training.

Training Farmers — At present, Prince Edward Island has seven farmers approved as Training Farms under this program.

Results — The Prince Edward Island Farm Skills Advisory Committee selected seven training farms for the Maritime Farm Certificate Program and has placed a trainee on three of these farms. The seven farms represent dairy, beef, swine, vegetables and small fruit enterprises. Other enterprises for which there may be an interest, are available in Nova Scotia. The program is a two-year on-farm training experience designed to teach the necessary skills for a person to enter the agricultural work force as an effective farm worker or herdsman. This program is enthusiastically supported by the Maritime Farmers Council which is a farm group comprised of members of the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Federations of Agriculture.

Local Agricultural Employment Advisory Board — There are two Canada Farm Labour Pool offices and one sub-office in Prince Edward Island.

Placements for the past three years are as follows:

	Placements		
	1982/83	1983/84	1984/85
Charlottetown	1,000	1,467	1,568
Prince County	343	458	885

During the past years both Pools negotiated industrial training contracts with farmers. Statistics for 1983-1984 as follows:

	Charlottetown	Prince County	Total
Farmers	25	3	28
Contracts	25	3	28
Employees Trained	25	3	28

Agri-crews work on farms assisting with labour such as haying, painting, cleaning, etc.

Engineering Section

The Engineering Section provides information and programs in planning and designing, farm buildings, farm machinery extension, soil and water conservation and energy conservation.

Conservation continues to be a strong focus in many engineering programs. Building designs are incorporating energy conserving designs and equipment. Machinery programs emphasize "conservation agriculture" (i.e. tillage systems that reduce erosion and conserve energy used in farm tillage operations).

Engineering staff are involved in the development of farm drainage projects under the ERDA Land and Water Conservation Sub-Agreement and this increased activities during 1985.

The broad objective of the Engineering Section is to assist Prince Edward Island farmers in establishing or improving the efficiency of viable farms through the best use of available resources.

These programs are carried out with a staff of five agricultural engineers, two engineering technologists, two part-time surveyors and secretarial support.

Farm Building Extension Service

Farm building planning and design services are provided by the Engineering Supervisor/Farm Building Engineer and the Engineering Technologist in Charlottetown and the District Engineer in Summerside.

During the year, the major demand for farm building information was for the swine industry. Plans were provided for 12 sow and weaner barns and 13 hog finishing barns.

Potato storage construction was reduced from previous years; however, there was increased interest in through-the-pile ventilation systems in existing storages. Plans were completed for five new potato storages and 20 ventilation systems in renovated storages.

Dairy barn construction was limited to replacement structures. Plans were provided for six dairy barns, one heifer barn and information on several ventilation systems. Beef barn construction consisted of four plans for pole type barns.

Other plans prepared by the farm building engineers included a salt fish processing plant, a truck disinfection depot, a chemical storage, small abbatoirs, poultry processing facility, egg grading room, sheep shed, ventilation details for various livestock buildings, hay storages, machinery storages and other smaller farm structures.

The draftsman completed 48 new building plans. Twelve computer print-outs on building costs were completed. Approximately 200 plan sets and 175 information leaflets were distributed to producers. More than 175 farm visits were made to view on-site problems and construction progress. Approximately 125 office interviews were completed by the farm building engineers to discuss building plans, building information and ventilation systems for farm buildings.

Planning assistance and technical information was given to Livestock Days, District Office programs, technical workshops and farm organizations. Information on timely topics is disseminated by radio interviews and Corner Post.

Farm Machinery Extension Program

During 1985 the Farm Machinery Extension Program continued activities in the following areas:

Information Dissemination: Contacts with the agricultural industry were increased over previous years. During the year approximately 450 farmer contacts were made in servicing farmer requests for information. Also, more than 100 contacts were made with other professionals. Information was also disseminated through radio programs on timely topics, fact sheets and Corner Post articles.

Machinery Show, Demonstrations: The Farm Machinery Specialist participated in planning and implementation of the 1985 Atlantic Farm Mechanization Show. Responsibilities included the coordination of the five special program areas at the show. This show was the largest to-date with 123 exhibitors and more than 30 thousand people viewing the products.

Demonstrations of new machinery technology was carried out by participating in the demonstration of a granular chemical applicator and a controlled droplet sprayer.

Farm Machinery Board: During the year 12 machinery investigations were carried out for the Farm Machinery Board. The Chairman of the Board and the Farm Machinery Specialist attended meetings regarding the Atlantic Agricultural Machinery Institute. A special project was initiated in cooperation with the P.E.I. Development Agency on combines suitable for smaller farms in the region.

The Farm Machinery Specialist serves on the Rural Safety Committee of the Federation of Agriculture.

Soil and Water Conservation Program

The major thrust in this program was in providing tile drainage plans for ERDA Soil and Water Conservation and Land Management Program. For this program, approximately 300 farms were visited. One-hundred and twenty drainage plans were completed for 95 farmers. These plans involved topographical surveying design and drafting of the plan. The completed plans included 460,000 feet of tile and 63,000 feet of open ditching. Seventy-eight final inspections were done on completed work. More than 40 additional plans have been completed for which installations will be carried out in 1986.

The Soil and Water Engineer participated in a tour to South West Ontario to view erosion control structures and discuss the land conservation program with the Ontario Engineering staff. The Nova Scotia Land Surveyors Conference was attended to assess computerized surveying hardware and software.

The Soil and Water Engineer had major input into the Guidelines and Specifications for the ERDA Soil and Water Conservation and Land Management Program. As a member of the ERDA Technical Sub-Committee on Soil and Water, the Engineer assists in the administration of this program. Assistance was also given to Agriculture Canada with a tour to project installation sites and site selections for a drainage drawdown research project.

The Engineer was involved with five Division Fence Act disputes and provided information to several other parties on the Division Fence Act.

The Soil and Water Conservation program maintained three subsoilers for use by farmers in alleviating drainage and soil compaction problems. Forty-five farmers used the subsoilers during the year.

Energy Conservation Project

Through the cooperation of the P.E.I. Energy Corporation, the Agricultural Energy Conservation Demonstration Project was reactivated in July, 1985 after being terminated in 1984.

Of the initial 22 projects initiated under the previous program, five have been completed, 11 continue to be monitored and six were terminated.

Special attention has been given to the areas of natural ventilation, air-to-air heat exchangers and wood heating systems for farm livestock buildings. This is in response to the expansion of the hog industry in 1985 and the increased demand for information on these topics.

Fact sheets on reducing fuel storage losses and natural ventilation systems were prepared. Information on timely energy conservation topics is disseminated through radio interviews and Corner Post articles. An ongoing information exchange on energy related topics and research projects is being conducted with other provinces. A large amount of up-to-date information has been collected.

Two new demonstration projects featuring natural ventilation systems in hog finishing barns were initiated in 1985. Monitoring of these units will be done during 1986 production year. Air-to-air heat exchangers are also being monitored.

Small Farms Program

This program emphasizes economic development opportunities specifically designed for small farm operations including appropriate information and technology, record keeping, development of new commodities appropriate to the small scale producers and development of information not readily available elsewhere.

This program offers on-farm contact and counselling to farm families who are operating on a small scale of production. Groups include those producers with limited resources and/or part-time operations and who have not used the regular services of the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture.

The Agricultural Resource Worker's role to make initial contact, provide counselling and gradually make families aware of departmental policies and extension services. Once this awareness has been created, and the farm family is making use of these services, the Agricultural Resource Worker searches out others to start the process over again.

The program also assists groups who may wish to cooperate in collective projects and programs.

Staff

There are 13 Agricultural Resource Workers (ARWs) employed in the Small Farms Program, in addition to a secretary and the Supervisor. These workers are located throughout the province — five in Prince County; five in Queens County and three in Kings County. During 1985 they made over 2800 farm calls. Two of these workers provide specific services — one works closely with blueberry growers and another is working with horticultural producers.

Small Farms Board

The Small Farms Board is made up of 12 small scale and/or part-time farmers who advise the Minister on Small Farms Policy and direction. The Board is chaired by Charles Duffy from Fort Augustus and it met five times during 1985.

Master Gardener Program

The Master Gardener Program successfully completed its second year. The program revolved around the use of well-experienced local gardeners who volunteer to answer home gardening questions during the growing season. The volunteers were given 48 hours of training and worked in conjunction with the Crops Section's summer student and department staff. Two volunteers returned from 1984 and three new volunteers began the program. The Master Gardeners volunteered a total of 240 hours and answered a total of 247 calls.

Home Gardens

The Horticultural Worker made numerous presentations to community schools and Women's Institute groups on home vegetable gardens. A number of Master Gardeners also made gardening presentations to community groups. Master Gardeners were also involved in radio and television programs featuring home gardening.

Courses

Aproximately 15 people attended a Chanterelle Mushroom Day in August.

The Small Farms Program assisted the Crops Section in the organization and running of the Horticultural Crops Days in March. Staff also made presentations during the three-day session.

The Small Farms Program organized a very successful Fruit Tree Pruning Demonstration and Production short course in April, featuring a guest speaker from Nova Scotia. About 20 people attended an evening pruning demonstration and production session in West Prince. Approximately 40 people attended an evening production information session in Charlottetown and another 50 people attended a half day pruning demonstration held in Montague.

Five persons attended a Sheep Shearing course in May.

About 30 people attended an Information Session on Income Tax Management for part-time farmers. This session was held in November in three locations.

In cooperation with the West Prince District Office, two information sessions were held in the western end of the province. About 30 producers attended the West Prince Beef Day in February and 25 producers attended a Pasture Management Information Session in April.

Publications

Two publications were prepared and distributed in 1985. "Raising Meat Chickens — An Opportunity for Small Scale Farmers" and a fact-sheet on "Full Year Vegetable Production in Insulated Cold Frames".

A non-commercial vegetable production fact-sheet on "Kohlrabi" was added to the series of 21 non-commercial vegetable production fact-sheets developed in 1984.

The Small Farms Program continues to provide material monthly to Corner Post for the Small Farms Program Section. During 1985 the six Farmers' Markets were featured in this publication.

During 1985 two slide sets were prepared. One slide set describing the program was presented at the A.I.C. Annual Meeting in June. The other slide tape set promotes "Farmers' Markets — Where Town & County Meet".

Working With Groups

The Program assisted several groups during the past year including: the marketing and shipment of wool for the P.E.I. Sheep Producers' Association; investigative travel to consider the canning of blueberries from the Rosebank Processors' Cooperative; meetings with the Caledonia Workers' Co-op; secretarial support for the P.E.I. Organic Growers Association and assistance with the formation of a Tree Fruit Growers' Association in West Prince. Two meetings were held to assist in the formation of a Direct Farm Marketing Association.

The Small Farms Program assisted the P.E.I. Draft Horse Association hold a Draft Horse Field Day. More than 250 people attended this event which was held in October.

Demonstrations

On-farm demonstrations carried out during 1985 included:

— three calf creep feeders — one each in Prince, Queens and Kings; the use of insecticide ear tags on two farms; the trial of six plastic cream pails and the use of helium balloons for bird control in blueberry fields;

The Small Farms Program worked in conjunction with the Crops Section on a Season Extension Techniques Demonstration Project.

Conferences

The Small Farms Program assisted producers to attend two out-of-province conferences, including:

a) 21 producers to the New Brunswick Farm Marketing Conference in Saint John, New Brunswick in February;

b) three vegetable producers to the New England Vegetable Growers Convention in Boxborough, Mass. in December.

New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers

The Small Farms Program has provided the basic support for this province's contribution to the New England and Eastern Canadian Small Farm Development Council. The Council is made up of representatives from the six New England states and the five Eastern Canadian provinces. At present the co-chairmen are the Maine Commissioner of Agriculture and the Prince Edward Island Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

The Council, initiated in 1985, evolved from the Small Farm Development Program effort started in 1981 by the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers. The Council will continue to work on cooperative agriculture development efforts of particular interest and use to the northeast region's small scale and part-time farmers. Work to-date has been initiated on cooperative marketing efforts, appropriate technology and a possible educational television series.

Farmers observe a Fence Post Driver at a small scale equipment demonstration in Kingston, P.E.I.

Livestock Section

The Livestock Section was involved with all aspects of the livestock industry in 1985. The major emphasis continued to be upgrading the productivity and efficiency of Prince Edward Island producers with major new programs in swine and beef. Major activities included:

- the development and implementation of a new five-year Swine Incentive Program;
- increasing the number of farmers on the supervised Dairy Herd Analysis Service;
- providing R.O.P. services for beef, sheep and swine to assist in selecting breeding stock;
- continuous efforts to improve milking systems and to control mastitis in dairy herds;
- increased emphasis to encourage participation in herd health programs for beef, swine and dairy;
- providing a ration formulation service for all classes of livestock;
- continuing forage quality information program;
- providing disease testing services for poultry and fur bearing animals, and
- providing extension programs such as courses, newsletters and information meetings for all livestock commodities.

Dairy

General

The dairy industry as a whole was stable in 1985 but the number of producers continued to decline.

	Change	Dec. '85	Dec. '84	Dec. '83
Industrial Producers	– 58	443	478	501
Fluid Producers	+ 16	156	139	140
Cream Producers	– 70	233	259	303

Prince Edward Island producers utilized 97.5 per cent of the 2,029,850 kgs. M.S.Q. allotted for milk and 89.7 per cent of the 282,150 kgs. M.S.Q. allotted for cream for an average utilization of 96.8 per cent for the 1984/85 dairy year ending July 31, 1985.

D.H.A.S.

The Dairy Herd Analysis Service provides a Herd Management and Milk Recording service for dairy producers. This service is provided by a staff of six under the direction of the Dairy Production Supervisor.

The milk and feed samples are analyzed in the department's dairy and feed labs. The computer program is the Dairy Herd Analysis Program from Macdonald College and serviced by a terminal centre in Moncton.

In December, 1985 there were 166 herds and 5,500 cows enrolled in D.H.A.S. Of these 66 herds and 2,600 cows were on the official option. Nine new official herds were enrolled in 1985 while three left the program. Herds on the waiting list for official test have been accommodated and there are openings for a limited number of official herds. The owner-sample program can accept more herds for enrollment.

In 1985 D.H.A.S. enrolled 20 new herds while losing the same number for the following reasons: five herds out of dairy, two herds transferred to R.O.P., two low production (official test) and 11 herds for other reasons.

D.H.A.S. staff continues to promote the National Identification Program for dairy cattle. In 1985, 750 new animals were enrolled.

Artificial Breeding Program

The A.I. Program in Prince Edward Island is administered by the P.E.I. Artificial Breeders' Association whose membership includes cattle breeders using the service. The P.E.I. Department of Agriculture participated by providing an annual operating grant. First service breedings for 1985 decreased by approximately 1000 to 17,500. This represents the lowest number of breeding for several years. The lower numbers are attributed to a decrease in milk production, a depressed farming community and the number of breeders who have made the decision to breed their own cows.

Importation of Dairy Breeding Stock

The department assisted with the importation of 55 head of dairy breeding stock at a cost of $6,375.00.

Extension Efforts

The Livestock Section dairy extension efforts are in three areas:

1. Programs to reduce sub-clinical mastitis and improve milking procedures and equipment used.
   a. Farm calls
      - 95 milking equipment & procedures
      - 12 stray voltage
      - 3 milker and barn design
      - 4 bacteria problems,
   b. meetings with equipment dealers and/or district managers;
   c. quarterly somatic cell count reports to veterinary clinics and agricultural representatives;
   d. somatic cell count graph for a year sent to all producers; and
   e. home study correspondence course through three districts with a total of 24 participants.

2. Programs to promote breeding stock and selection plus use of sires:
   a. Assistance with purebred sale;
   b. assistance on sire selection committees;
   c. assistance with exhibitions;
   d. four Dairy Day meetings were held on Reproductive Performance and Sire Selection;
   e. assistance to breed associations with meetings and judging clinics;
   f. news releases on production records, sales and new A.I. bulls available.
3. Feed testing and ration formulation.

Beef

The beef industry in 1985 experienced stable prices and good demand for half of the year. Then June through October a devasting price decrease hit the market. This severely affected feedlot profile and consequently, feeder prices this fall were below last year's prices.

Cattle slaughter at federally inspected plants was up by 8.2 per cent to 24,472 head of P.E.I. origin, as of December 3, 1985.

There were 9,800 cattle slaughtered in provincially inspected slaughter houses — up eight per cent from 1984.

Beef R.O.P.

In the 1984-85 testing year, there were 62 herds on R.O.P. with 1120 animals starting test and 950 completing test.

There is still a strong demand to test bulls at the Maritime Bull Test Station. Island producers tested 52 bulls during 1985. The test station underwent a further expansion in 1985. It now has the capability to test 220 bulls at one time. The station sale has again proven popular with commercial cattlemen from the Maritimes and Quebec. The April sale had an average price of $1,598 on 67 bulls, compared to an average of $1,425 in 1984.

Policies

The Bull Bonus Program offered by the Department of Agriculture to encourage the use of superior herd sires paid a total assistance of $42,800 on 101 bulls. Under the beef female importation policy, assistance of $100 per head was paid on 25 animals.

Cow-Calf Development Program

The Cow-Calf Development Program was introduced as a new three-year initiative. The objective of the program is to improve the quality of beef calves. Assistance under this program, as outlined below, was provided upon completion of each of these management practices.

1. an incentive of $25/calf after weighing of calves at weaning time;
2. an incentive of up to $50/herd for pregnancy checking;
3. an incentive of $5/calf for preconditioning of calves offered for sale; and
4. identification tags were provided for cows and calves for the first year of the program.

The following is a summary of enrollments on the program:

	Number of Cows
Weaning Weight	2,873
Record of Performance	2,427

Forty-five farms applied for preconditioning a total of 1,673 head.

Weighing services were provided by the department and three part-time staff were hired to assist in the weighing. Computer summaries of each farm were prepared and returned to each producer. These summaries indicated information such as 200-day adjusted weaning weights, top producing cows, overall herd averages, etc. The following is a brief summary of the herds on the weaning portion of the program.

Beef Cow-Development Program
Summary to December, 1985

	Weaning Weight	R.O.P.
Number of Herds	105	45
Number of Calves Weighed	2,353	599
Average Adjusted Weight		
— Females	441	
— Males	475	
Total Paid	$ 46,925	$ 14,975

Extension Activities

The beef carcass appraisal program which provided carcass data on individual animals was discontinued in July. After collecting data on 1,200 carcasses at Garden Province Meats, it was decided that the program was useful enough to try to establish a similar federal program known as the "Blue Tag" program. However, to-date (Dec. 31, 1985) this program had not been established.

Assistance was provided to the Cattlemens' Association on a P.E.I. program to evaluate pasture systems. Sixteen Island beef producers are testing four different pasture systems — traditional, rotational, block grazing and strip grazing. This is a two-year project to measure the total pounds of beef produced per acre under each system.

Other extension activities included a bi-monthly newsletter, CornerPost artices and radio programs. Assistance was given with the Beef Financial Management course, West Prince Beef Day and development of Miltonvale community pasture. Assistance was provided to the Easter Beef Show and exhibitions in clerking and judging.

Sheep

The sheep industry has stablized with relatively firm prices and good demand locally for Island lamb. There is still a market for Island purebred breeding stock outside the region.

Marketing

The P.E.I. Lamb Co-op is the major purchaser of lamb in the province. Lambs were purchased from Co-op members and marketed directly to local stores. There were 1,150 lambs slaughtered at provincially inspected plants in 1985; down 17 per cent from 1984. Other lamb sales are through a farmgate trade, Truro livestock sales and through Nova Scotia and New Brunswick livestock buyers.

R.O.P.

There were 870 lambs from 20 flocks tested under the sheep R.O.P. Program in 1985.

Policies

Assistance under the Ewe Retention Policy was paid on 75 ewe lambs. The sheep industry is in a consolidation phase, consequently flock sizes have not been increasing. Seventeen rams were bonussed under the Ram Bonus Policy.

Extension activities during the year included a sheep newsletter, computerization of sheep sales and assistance with the freezer lamb directory and Sheep Day.

Swine

General

The swine industry in Prince Edward Island received a lot of attention during 1985. Early in the year both producers and government made a commitment to establishing a new "kill, chill and cut" facility to replace the old plant in Charlottetown.

As a direct result of this commitment, the P E.I. Swine Incentive Program was developed with producers with the objective of increasing the competitive position of Island producers and increasing the number of slaughter hogs over the next five years.

Hog slaughter of P.E.I. origin was down 1.8 per cent from 1984 to approximately 170,000 head. The decrease was a direct result of continued low prices, in part emphasized by an embargo on exports to the United States. A number of farm businesses closed because of financial difficulties. For these businesses, income limited to stablization price was insufficient to meet their obligations. On the other hand, pork producers in better financial shape are expanding production as described in the Swine Incentive Program section of this report.

R.O.P., Boar and Gilt Bonus Policy

There are 17 farms participating in the R.O.P. program with all of them selling some breeding stock. Two other farms probed gilts for selection of breeding herd replacements.

The Animal Industry Branch supplies a technician to probe pigs in minimal disease status herds, while the Livestock Section technician provides this service to conventional herds.

Statistics

R.O.P. Home Test	Qualified	Disqualified
Boars	407	137
Gilts	1,382	224

Quality Swine		
Boars probed	—	112
Gilts probed	—	828

Sales	Boars	Gilts
Quality Swine Program	80	463
Conventional Breeder	158	269

Swine Incentive Program

There are 340 applicants in the Swine Incentive Program representing a base 106,094 market hogs per year and 137,964 weaners per year.

Of these, 49 have applied for an advance in order to expand facilities by a total of 18,500 weaners and 21,666 feeders per year.

Based on the first six months of the program, the 340 applicants produced an increase of 13 per cent market hogs over their base.

Applications under the remainder of the program are:

Sow Productivity Portion:	61 producers
Herd Health Portion:	59 producers
Minimal Disease Portion:	4 producers

Dollars paid out between April 1 — December 31, 1985:

Increased Weaner Production	—	$ 59,560
Support on Hogs Marketed	—	$ 495,131
Advance for Building	—	$ 323,929

Extension Activities

Because of added emphasis on Swine Production, extension activities increased significantly in the following areas:

— planning new or expanded facilities,

— herd health program,

— minimal disease program,

— sow productivity records,
— nutrition and ration formulation.

This increased workload was shared by the engineering section, district office and other extension staff.

Specific activities for 1985 were:

— three swine financial management courses,
— Sow Management course,
— swine newsletter in the Island Farmer
— swine productivity program for production records, 24 producers to-date are using the Livestock Section system,
— sponsoring producer participation in the New Brunswick and the Nova Scotia annual pork conferences, and
— radio tapes, news releases.

Other extension activities were on a one-to-one basis with individual producers.

In late 1985 an evaluation of the Quality Swine Program was initiated. This process included organizing meetings to get feedback from the interested parties.

Poultry

Our Island Poultry Industry enjoyed a stable and reasonably profitable year in 1985.

Table Egg Production

There were 33 registered egg producers with the P.E.I. Egg Commodity Marketing Board representing approximately 120,000 layers. The balance of our provincial quota of 144,000 birds is an approximate 150 farms, each with less than 300 birds.

Egg production per hen averaged 22 dozen per layer. All grades and the average price received for all grades was approximtely $1 per dozen.

Surplus egg production was approximately 53,000 — 15 dozen boxes were purchased by CEMA and exported to breaking plants in Quebec. This is an increase over 1984 of 43 per cent.

All larger flocks and replacement pullets are annually blood tested for vaccination immunity. There were 480 samples collected and after processing in our laboratory, were shipped to Truro for analysis.

There were no serious disease problems in our Island egg production flocks this year.

Broiler and Roaster Production

Approximately 209,000 broilers and 60,000 roasters were grown on Island farms in 1985.

There is a small decrease over 1984. Only one commercial broiler farm was in operation in 1985. All our broilers are exported for processing.

Our roaster production is largely on family farm operations in all areas of the Island. The birds are processed locally and marketed within the province.

With renewed interested in broiler production, there is a trend to utilizing our alloted provincial quota of approximately one million birds in the next few years.

The Canadian chick market is strong with an annual growth as well as a very optimistic forecast for continued expansion in the coming years.

No serious disease problems affected the chicken industry in 1985.

Waterfowl Production

Production was approximately the same as 1984 and with the failure of our only registered waterfowl hatchery, goslings and ducklings were imported from Ontario to fill our requirements. Approximately 6,000 geese and 4,000 ducks were grown on Island farms in 1985. There is an opportunity for expansion in this industry.

Turkey Production

There was a modest increase in turkey placements in 1985. Approximately 20,000 pullets were placed on Island farms. Only five farms report more than 500 turkeys with the remainder in small flocks on numerous Island farms.

There is an opportunity for increased production. However, turkeys require special management skills and many farmers find the challenge too risky a venture.

Other Activities

The P.E.I. Marketing Council administer the activities of the P.E.I. Chicken Marketing Board.

A white meat commodity team was formed and a study is being compiled for this team.

The P.E.I. Egg Commodity Board has enjoyed good producer relations and the industry is reasonably stable and profitable.

Approximately 540 farm calls were made and 70 feed samples and 140 birds submitted for laboratory examination.

Four commercial hatchery supply flocks and 22 Bird Fanciers flocks were vaccinated for ILT. disease. A total of 1,650 birds were blood tested and 1,200 were vaccinated.

Eight poultry shows were judged with a total of 1,150 entries in the various classes.

Our egg promotion project carried out including senior citizen home workshops, to promote the use of eggs as well as promotion kits to all elementary schools on the Island.

The egg quality committee had five meetings. New changes to the egg grading regulations are being implemented with some producer resistance.

Eight egg board meetings were attended and assistance was given with the Board's annual meeting.

Nutrition

In 1985, 3,632 samples were processed for farms and 266 samples were processed for non-farmers. This is close to the total numbers in the 1984 crop year.

Advice on preparing rations and proper feeding rates is given out on a daily basis. Most of this work is now carried out with the aid of computer programs. Over the past year, two new feeds, i.e., whole soybeans and crab meal, have commanded a lot of attention. In addition to these two feeds, some of the areas of work in nutrition over the past year included:

1) The use of low calcuim diets to lower incidence of milk fever in dairy herds;
2) the use of protein sources of different digestability to make more effective use of protein in dairy cattle's diets;
3) investigations of copper deficiency in five dairy herds;
4) beta-carotene feeding to dairy cows;
5) use of buffers for dairy cows receiving high levels of grain;
6) investigations of below average production in dairy herds;
7) investigations of feeding problems in apparent high quality second cut red clover silage;
8) feeding programs for farmers using computer feeding systems;
9) use of peas in hog rations;
10) use of salt fish trimmings in hog rations;
11) use of steam potatoes for hogs;
12) use of fat in beef and hog rations;
13) use of ruminsin in beef cattle diets; and
14) assistance in preparing projects for submissions to the federal Productivity Enhancement Program.

This was the third year for the forage quality program. Each week during the growing season, a report is issued stating the quality of forage as it is growing in the field.

Courses given during the year were on forage quality, energy feeding for dairy cattle, whole soybean feeding and an eight-week nutrition course through a community school.

Specific requests for recommendations from the nutritionist are reflected by commodity in the following statistics:

	Dairy	Swine	Beef	Other
Farm Calls	67	3	3	3
Office Calls	60	35	16	3
Telephone Requests	193	129	63	34

Fur

Ranch furs marketed for the 1984-85 season were 8,762 mink and 11,162 fox.

Extension activities included working and judging at shows, newsletter and working with the P.E.I. Fur Breeders Association, as well as with individual ranchers.

Testing of mink for Aleutian disease is a service provided to the ranchers.

Miscellaneous

The Livestock Section provided assistance to 15 different breed associations. Assistance was also provided to 30 breeders exhibiting livestock at the Maritime exhibitions and to 18 breeders showing at the Royal Winter Fair.

The department paid a grant towards 51 foals under the Draft Horse Improvement Policy.

Extension activities included sponsoring information meetings for horses, plus supplying information on a request basis.

Community Pastures

The five community pastures operated very smoothly during the 1985 year. Total number of animals on pasture was 3,363, broken down as follows:

Head of Hillsborough	185
Kelly's Cross	784
Wellington	803
Ellerslie	1,049
Lauretta	542
	3,363

Changes at pastures during 1985, with assistance of Federal Works programs, included:

a) a new barn and 50 chains of fencing — Lauretta;
b) a new barn and 30 chains of fencing — Wellington;
c) a new corral and 125 chains of fencing — Kelly's Cross.

Considering the very dry conditions experienced during the summer and fall, animals on pasture still showed a fairly good weight gain for the season.

Tobacco Production — 1983-1985

	1983	1984	1985
No. of Farms	81	81	81
No. of Acres	4512.2	4300	3722.6
Total pounds	8,045,719	8,869,922	5,889,100 (est.)
Yield/Acre	1783	2045	1582 (est.)
Total Value	$ 13,094,648	$ 14,896,844	$ 10,400,151
Final Price	$1,628	$1,679	$1,766

Cereal & Forage Crop Production — 1984-85

	Acreage		Yield/bu/ac	
	1984	**1985**	**1984**	**1985**
Wheat	8,000	9,000	49	48
Oats	30,000	28,000	58	62
Barley	53,000	59,000	48	55
Mixed Grain	82,000	79,000	58	60.5
Hay	125,000	124,000	2.25	2.15
Corn	4,000	4,000	12.50	12.50

Prince Edward Island Total Acreage and Average Price of Fresh and Processing Vegetables:

	1985 Acreage		1985 Average Price
Beans	20		$.80/lb.
Beets	160		$.60/bunch
Broccoli	80		$.85/lb.
Cabbage	175		$4.00/50 lb. (bag included)
Carrots	320		$4.50/50 lb.
Corn	90		$.84/dozen
Cucumbers	58	Field	$1.75/lb.
		English	$.85 each
Lettuce	45		$.65/head
Parsnips	20		
Rutabagas	500		$4.10/50 lb.
Squash	6		$.40/lb.
Tomatoes	6	Greenhouse	$1.25/lb.
		Field	$.70/lb.

Crops Section

Staff of the Crops Section continued to provide farm operators in Prince Edward Island with the latest information and services. Some highlights of 1985 include:

- continuation of work on season extension techniques for vegetable producers;
- increased interest and activity regarding diversification into crops such as primrose, grapes, soybeans, small fruits & vegetables;
- the addition of a Forage Extension Specialist to provide leadership in forage production and management; and the
- development of projects in co-operation with Agriculture Canada's Productivity Enhancement and Technology Development Programs.

Staff conducted approximately 6,000 individual client contracts and in addition attended numerous committee meetings and crop commodity associatons activities.

Of these contracts, approximately 46 per cent were with primary agricultural producers and 43 per cent government agency contacts. Over 60 per cent of the contacts were providing information or discussing technical issues related to crop production and 20 per cent are classified as contacts with crop commodity associations. Approximately 22 per cent of the contacts were office, 15 per cent on farm, and about 58 per cent by telephone. In summary, most staff time is devoted to delivering technical information to individual farmers or a commodity association in support of crop production in Prince Edward Island. In addition, during the growing season a weekly crop report is issued to the media and various press interviews conducted on the general crop conditions.

Tobacco

The 1985 tobacco crop was below the five-year average for the Island, due mainly to excessive rain early in the growing season. The crop, although of high quality, was more prone to insect and disease attack, reducing returns to producers

Extension Activities

Extension activities included a four day financial management workshop for tobacco producers; in-field recommendations on fertility adjustment programs and other related production problems; co-operation with the holding of the annual winter meeting; a tobacco competition; the annual tobacco field-day; tobacco grower meetings; and organizing the annual tobacco sales day.

Emphasis was placed on working with tobacco producers involved in evaluating cash crops which would "blend" with a tobacco enterprise, including colored beans, canola, evening primrose, grapes, onions and asparagus.

Soil & Crop Improvement Association

The P.E.I. Soil & Crop Improvement Association is a producer-operated organization whose prime role is to improve the soil while increasing crop yeilds with the goal being higher farm net incomes. Demonstration and trial projects on members' farms have taken place in five agricultural districts. Testing of cereal and forage crops using the newest varieties available constituted a major part of soil and crop activities in each Agricultural District.

The Soil & Crop Improvement Association, in co-operation with the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, sponsored a Crop Seminar in each agricultural district. These seminars updated producers on the performance of the newest cereal and protein crop varieties, and the economic results of integrated cereal management.

A **Productivity Enhancement Project** on Integrated Cereal Management was conducted on winter cereals, spring wheat and barley. The project provided technical advice, fungicides, and growth regulators to the co-operating producers, as well as taking yield tests at harvest to demonstrate the benefits of this new management system.

A **New Crop Development Project** was conducted on winter rapeseed production. Two plots were winterkilled, and two survived, yielding one tonne of Canada No. 1 Canola per acre.

A provincial farmers' tour was conducted in early August to view soil & crop work, and other areas of new technology. This tour was attended by more than 135 farmers. A **Productivity Enhancement Program** Project on Alfalfa Production Management was successfully negotiated for implementation in 1986.

Yield and quality competitions were held for hay, silage, cereal grains, protein crops, and potatoes. The S.C.I.A. had a display of the winning hay entries at the Charlottetown Exhibition, along with a cereal crop display on Integrated Cereal Management.

Secan Association

SeCan Association is a unique partnership of seed growers, seed firms and government departments

dedicated to production and marketing new crop varieties developed in Canada. This department has a representative on the Board of Directors and attended the annual meeting in 1985.

Some varieties recommended in the Atlantic region distributed through SeCan are Milton and Vernon spring wheat; Bruce, Leger and Micmac barley; Shaw and Sentinel oats; and Valor and Borden winter wheat.

Canadian Seed Growers Association

The Department of Agriculture is represented on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association and the representative attended their annual meeting in Vancouver, and their Directors' meeting in Ottawa, to discuss issues in the seed grain industry.

When the Agriculture Canada cost recovery program was announced, the C.S.G.A. successfully negotiated lower fees for field inspections than were originally proposed. The new Seeds Act, which contains new guidelines for advertising seed, has been proclaimed.

Cereals

Cereal yields were very high in western Prince County, above average in Queens County, and average in Kings County. Winter cereal survival was poor in Queens County; however, those fields which over-wintered yielded well. Cereal grain quality was good, with higher protein levels recorded. Acreage increased slightly in 1985, with an increase in barley acreage and a drop in the acreage of oats and mixed grains. Winter rye acreage increased.

Extension Activities

Extension activities centered around individual farm client consultations, technical and administrative support to Soil & Crop Improvement Association activities, Maritime Branch of C.S.G.A., and the Advisory Committee of Cereals & Protein Crops for the Atlantic Provinces Agricultural Services Co-ordinating Committee.

Quality Seed Development Program:

The Quality Seed Development Program was continued with 486 applications received to the end of December, 1985.

Soybeans

Soybean acreage increased this season to over 4,000 acres, with yields dramatically lower than 1984, due to the dry season.

Peas

Field pea acreage continues to drop, as producers switch to soybeans.

Forages

Hay — the 1985 season saw tame hay acreages remain relatively stable at 50,200 ha.

There is continued active interest from producers in growing alfalfa. Increased interest in alfalfa production, better management practices, and improved awareness of the importance of early harvesting are resulting in improved quality hay being harvested. The dried hay crop is being stored predominantly in small rectangular bales, with the conversion to large round bales accelerating. The use of barn hay driers is moderately well spread throughout P.E.I., however, the numbers in use have not been increasing rapidly. Storage as silage is still gaining in popularity, with considerable interest in alternative silage systems.

Pastures — There is considerable interest being expressed in the use of new and improved pasture species, both in monoculture and in mixtures. Ryegrass is proving to be a popular annual pasture species, with acreages remaining stable. There is considerable producer concern over weeds in pastures with particular emphasis being placed on the tansy ragwort problem. A high degree of interest in forage brassicas is being shown, particularly by beef producers.

Extension Activities

Extension activities were enhanced by the hiring of a new Forage Specialist in July. Activities focused on answering producer inquiries on proper management practices, fertility recommendations, variety selection, storage problems, etc. As well, technical advice was given on proposed projects for the Productivity Enhancement Program and Technology Development Program on behalf of the P.E.I. Soil & Crop Improvement Association.

Small Fruit Production

Strawberry Growers' Association

The Association has approximately 20 members and is active in producer education and promotion. The annual meeting was held in conjunction with "Horticultural Crop Days."

Strawberries:

Crop Estimates:
Acres (fruiting) — 400
Provincial average yield — 3,200 qts/acre
Total Crop — 1,280,000 qts.

	Average Price
Fresh (55%)	$ 1.00/qt.
Pick Your Own (42%)	$ .45-.50/lb.
Processing (3%)	$ .25/lb.

A wet spring aggravated insect and pollination problems, reducing overall production. Acreage is holding

steady. The processing section remains weak. Farm gate value is estimated to be $1,062,400.

Certified Strawberry Program

Staff provided three inspections of nurseries under this program. Four certified nurseries sold 252,450 plants locally (on order over 500). One of these nurseries is producing plants from micropropagation. Assistance totalling $3,146.75 was provided to the nurseries.

A sample of fall-dug nursery plants has been sampled for the root-bait test, a procedure which can certify stock free from the Red Steele Disease.

Extension Activities

1) In co-operation with district office staff, a preliminary leaf tissue survey (175 samples) was done to determine nutrient level ranges in strawberries. Boron is of particular interest.
2) A grower tested the use of a plastic tunnel on Veestar strawberries to advance the date of harvest.
3) In conjunction with the P.E.I. Horticultural Association Productivity Enhancement Program project, various production techniques were studied, including an in-row weeder, micropropagated plants, and irrigation.
4) Two newsletters were mailed to growers.
5) Insect and disease problems were monitored.
6) Individualized cost of production systems were developed on the computer to be made available to growers.

Blueberry Growers' Association

The Blueberry Growers' Association celebrated its 10th anniversary in 1985, with a membership of approximately 40 producers. The association held a successful field day in August, featuring weed control. The annual meeting in November featured the Safety Co-ordinator with the P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture.

The association conducted Productivity Enhancement Program projects on the evaluation of the "Levco" stump grinder and land levelling demonstrations to enable the use of mechanical harvesters.

Blueberries

Crop Estimates: The 1985 crop is estimated at 750,000 lbs. with an approximate price from processors of 25 cents/lb. Farm gate value is estimated to be $225,000.

The crop was considered average although the Western part of the province did suffer extensive winter damage. Prices from processors were down and more growers sold to the fresh and pick-you-own markets. Some growers are cutting back on recommended intensive management, due to poor returns from the processing sector.

Extension Activities

1) Four newsletters were compiled and mailed out.
2) A back-pack sprayer/burner is available for demonstrations and trials.
3) A propane cannon was used to demonstrate one method of bird control.
4) Binders with photographs of common blueberry insects, including sampling methods for blueberry maggots, were distributed to Resource Centres.
5) In a follow-up to 1984 work, 12 fields were surveyed for soil and leaf tissue nutrient values.
6) Approximately 10 fields were checked for signs of Monilinia blight. Greater damage was noted in second crop year fields.
7) A blueberry maggot survey across the province indicates that, generally, low levels of infestation are present.
8) Individual assistance was given to growers, as well as technical and administrative support to the Association.
9) Video cassettes were distributed to assist in training pickers. These were obtained from the N.S. Department of Agriculture & Marketing.

Raspberry Growers' Association

The P.E.I. Raspberry Growers' Association was formed in 1985. Membership is approximately 12. A modest but successful promotion program was carried out including the production of a recipe pamphlet. Approximately 15 growers attended a province wide tour of farms.

Raspberries

1) There are approximately 25 acres of raspberries with highly variable yields but good prices. The estimated farm gate value is $30,000.
2) Three newsletters were prepared and distributed to growers. Other extension activities included individual consultations, and administrative support for establishment of a grower association.

Cranberries

The crop, which is raked from the wild, is estimated at 36,000 lbs. Yields were down in West Prince, due to winterkill. A one-acre trial cultivated bog was planted in the East Kings area. Farm gate value is estimated at $14,400.

Grapes

A new interest has developed in the potential for commercial grape production. A four-year research study was begun in 1985, with small plantings set out at seven locations in Southern Kings County. Thirty-five people toured Nova Scotia in October and view several farms and wineries. Follow-up activities are planned for 1986

Tree Fruits, Currants, Gooseberries

At this point, other fruit crops are generally restricted to the home garden level. There are two small commercial apple orchards and a few recent plantings (10 acres), which have not come into full production. Average pick-your-own price is 25 cents/lb.

One grower is producing apple root-stock for sale.

Currants and gooseberries (totalling less than 5 acres) are sold locally.

A new local specialty preserve manufacturer is providing an alternative market for some berry crops.

P.E.I. Greenhouse Growers' Association

Association activities during 1985 included producer "fact-finding" attendance at the N.S. Greenhouse Growers' Association annual meeting and the Canadian Greenhouse Conference. Local activities included an annual field-day highlighting Season Extension Techniques and a Horticultural Crops Conference featuring specialized areas of production.

Greenhouse

The Island's greenhouse sector continues to expand in the face of restrictive competition. Bedding plant sales increased marginally over 1984 levels, making 1985 a good year for producers. Expansion also occured in the vegetable sector to meet increased Island demand for quality English seedless cucumbers, peppers, and tomatoes. The industry continues to be strongly represented by an association active in promoting greenhouse products and disseminating information to its members on innovative production and marketing practices.

Extension Activities

Extension activities continued to provide technical assistance to individual producers, commodity newsletters and technical and administrative support to the Greenhouse Growers' Association.

P.E.I. Horticultural Association Inc.

The Horticultural Association has been very active in its second year of operation. Education activities undertaken with the departments support included: Horticultural Crops Days in March, a local field-day and tour, a producer tour to the Montreal area, and attendance at the New England Vegetable Growers' Convention, Foxborough, Mass.

An industry presentation was made to the Caucus Committee on Agriculture and a Horticultural Production Demonstration Project was implemented under the Productivity Enhancement Program of the Canada-Prince Edward Island Agri-Food Development Sub-Agreement. Projects under the Technology Development and Crop Health Programs of the agreement were also successfully negotiated during the year, for implementation in 1986. Total value of industry development contracts now in place is $521,821.

Vegetables

The season of 1985 was not particularly good for vegetables. The wet spring delayed crop plantings and late season drought combined to reduce yields. Cabbage and carrots were adversely effected. Cole crop yields were average.

Extension Activities

Extension activities consisted of individual consultations, as well as field trials on season extension techniques. These included (1) the evaluation of unheated greenhouse production of regular cucumbers, english cucumbers, and green and hot red peppers; (2) Black mulch; (3) supported and floating row covers on transplanted crops of zucchini, cucumbers, broccoli, tomatoes and buttercup squash; (4) Trellised tomato production was evaluated; and in addition (5) late fall tunnel house production of broccoli, cauliflower and lettuce was attempted.

Integrated Pest Management

An integrated crop production advisory service was initiated to improve producer knowledge on the timely application of agricultural chemicals or production practices, and identifying economic thresholds for specific crop pests and the most effective control techniques. This service was carried our in co-operation with the P.E.I. Vegetable Growers' Co-operative and provided regular field scoutings to 25 vegetable crop producers in Prince Edward Island from June to September.

Crop Production Management

A P.E.I. Agricultural Production Management Program Soil & Crop Record Book was printed and circulated. A series of "Crop Production Profiles" were prepared and published for 28 crop systems in P.E.I. These profiles are also available as templates formated on a Lotus 1-2-3-spreadsheet.

Home Gardens

In 1985, a summer student was hired and worked in co-operation with the Master Gardener Program in providing assistance to home garden inquiries.

P.E.I. Beekeepers' Co-operative

The association has 130 members. The annual meeting was held in March with special attention given to the Tracheal Mite situation and queen rearing. The association brought in bee packages from New Zealand in an attempt to reduce imports of package bees from the U.S. The directors have also been active in the Tracheal mite project, under the Livestock Health Program of the P.E.I. Agri-Food Development Program; and fund rasing projects and the bulk purchase of honey containers for members.

Honeybees

Production Estimates:

Number of beekeepers	145
Number of bee colonies	900
Average yields	95 lbs./hive
Total provincial crop	108,000 lbs.
Number of bees ordered through the P.E.I. Beekeepers' Co-op Association	Approx. 400 pkgs.

Extension Activities

— Four newsletters were prepared and mailed to beekeepers.

— Honey grading equipment was made available to beekeepers. In 1985, two apiaries became registered with Agriculture Canada Production & Inspection Branch, allowing them to ship inter-provincially. The total of registered apiaries now stands at eight.

— Overwintering information resulting from an '84 Productivitiy Enhancement Project was disseminated. The indoor overwintering building obtained through the project was used again with good results; however, outdoor overwintering of properly prepared hives can also be successful.

— Overwintered colonies were rented to blueberry growers for pollination. Demand is down somewhat, due to depressed fruit prices for blueberries.

— A private beekeeper is involved in a queen-rearing project (funded by the Productivity Enhancement Program of the Agri-Food Agreement).

Bee Development Program

This program, with a grant of $5,600 from the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture to the P.E.I. Beekeepers' Co-op Association, is designed to identify and erradicate disease of honeybees in the province. A committee was formed, composed of association directors and the provincial apiarist, to administer the 1985 inspections and to recommend policy changes.

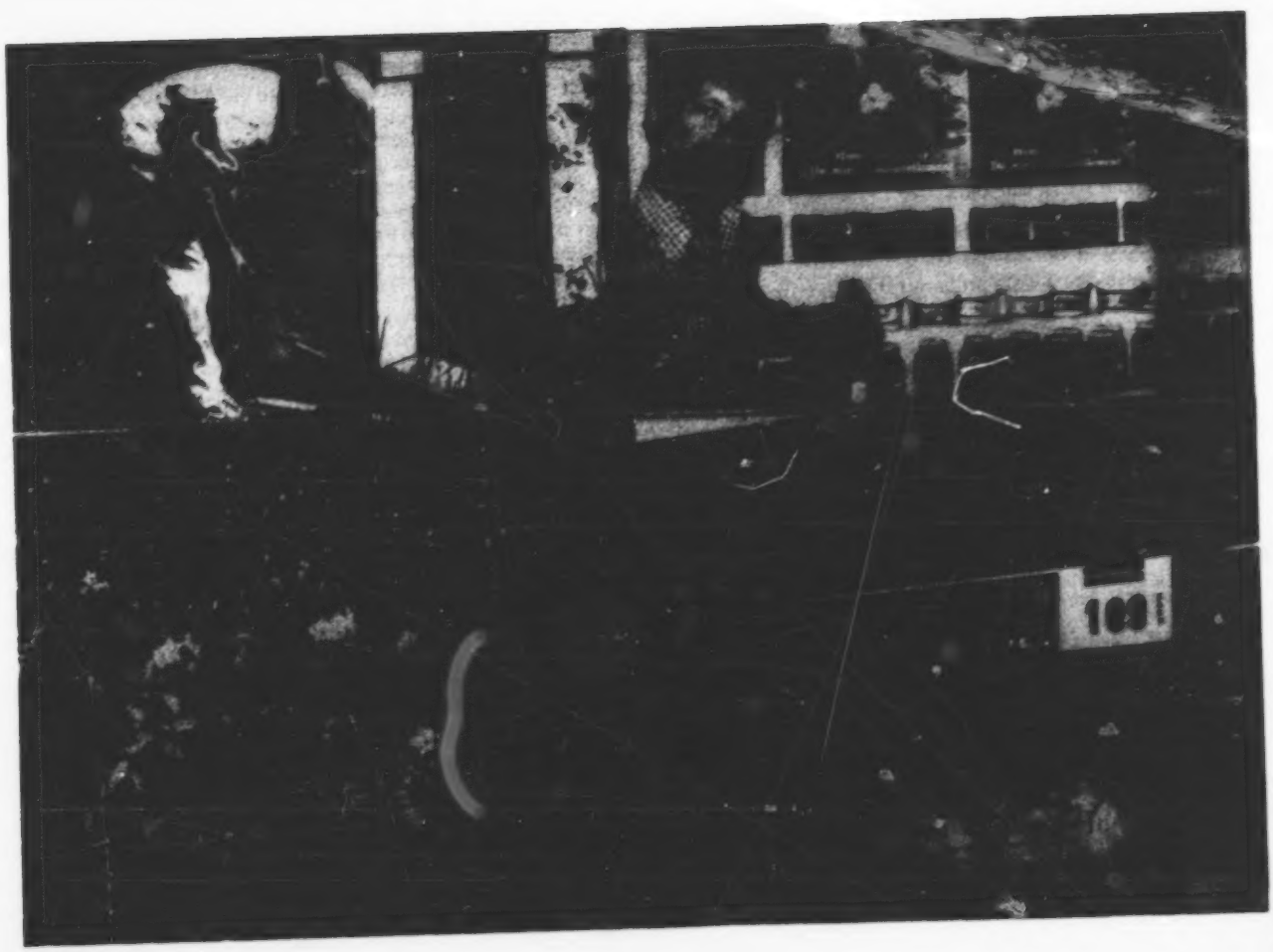
A drug subsidy program was initiated for association members. The committee advised the Minister on the development of new regulations to the Act, which came into effect May, 1985. These regulations provide authority to quarantine imported bees and to control possible infestations of exotic parasitic mites. Colonies were also surveyed for the presence of the tracheal mite. A Disease Workshop was organized in November. Over 20 attended from N.S., N.B. and P.E.I. Other activities included the development of a computerized mailing/inspection list and of a detailed Inspector's manual.

Approximately 850 colonies were represented in both the tracheal mite and the regular inspection surveys by the Chief inspector and three part-time inspectors.

Number of colonies with infestations of:

1) Tracheal mites	None
2) American foulbrood	20
3) European foulbrood	15
4) Chalkbrood	7
5) Sacgrood	Not Significant
6) Skunk damage	Very prevalent

Master Gardener volunteers receive their certificates from the Hon. Prowse Chappell at the completion of the 1985 Master Gardener Program.



Marketing Branch

The Branch offers marketing assistance, expertise and programs to farm organizations, commodity groups, associations, cooperatives and individuals. The Marketing Branch's objectives are to tie together production initiative to market opportunities, identify new markets, provide market research where required, provide an analysis of marketing opportunities including outlook and forecasting information, and to provide commodity promotion and educational programs. The Branch also provides information on market organizational options particularly for establishing commodity groups. The Branch provides a planning and statistical analysis service and represents the department on a number of intergovernmental committees, task forces, and working groups where marketing, planning policy and statistical issues are discussed.

In February 1985 the Marketing Branch reached its full staff complement with the appointment of a potato marketing coordinator. This position had been vacant for some months and with this appointment, the Branch had staff in place to deal with each commodity area and to more effectively address the full range of important marketing issues.

The Branch's principle function remains one of providing extension information and services (marketing) to the farm clientele and to the department.

In cooperation with the commodity sectors, a series of market-related education/extension programs were offered. The addition of "Focus on Marketing" to the department's CornerPost magazine has been very well received. The Branch has completed the first draft of an audio/visual slide presentation depicting Prince Edward Island agriculture with a focus on marketing.

After a number of years of negotiation among Canada's red meat producers, the Provinces and the Government of Canada, a tripartite Red Meat Stabilization Plan was developed. Prince Edward Island signed into the Tripartite Beef Plan late in December 1985.

Canada-United States trade issues were very visible in 1985. Early in the year United States officials concluded their investigation and verification process respecting a countervail duty on Canadian pork exports. The final result was a duty on the movement of live swine from Canada to the United States. Canada and the United States have agreed to try to negotiate more liberalized trade terms. The implications for agriculture of such an undertaking are being studied by a Federal-Provincial Agricultural Trade Committee. The Branch Director represents the Department on this committee.

In a further effort to foster better understanding and open communications with our counterparts in the United States regards agricultural trade a small delegation visited the State of Maine in November to exchange information and build bridges of understanding between the two jurisdictions.

Efforts to build a new kill, chill and cut red meat facility were successfully concluded early in 1985. The Branch Director represented the Department on the Plant Negotiating Team and chaired a series of county meetings set up to provide information on and receive producer input respecting the plant and the contingent swine incentive policy which came into effect April 1, 1985.

The Branch continued its responsibility for the development and coordination of agricultural planning in 1985. The Planning Secretariat made up of senior department staff and chaired by the Branch Director, is responsible for establishing the broad terms of reference for planning and making policy recommendations to the Minister. Two planning officers are attached to the Branch who provide support services to the work plan as determined by the Planning Secretariat.

The Branch Director serves on the Prince Edward Island Marketing Council. The P.E.I. Marketing Council is responsible for the supervision of the activities of commodity marketing boards operating under the Natural Products Marketing Act.

On a regional basis, the director represented the Department on the Atlantic Committee on Food and the Atlantic Committee on Marketing and Distribution. The purpose of these committees is to provide a forum for exchanging ideas and for joint action on a number of issues relating to marketing.

Livestock Marketing

Beef

The Cattlemen's Association and Garden Province Meats Inc. were assisted in setting up a beef grades display at the Easter Beef Show in March. The display demonstrated to producers the relations between the conformation of live beef animals and the type of carcass produced. As well, producers were given the opportunity to see the type of animal that will yield a superior carcass and thus demand better market returns. Plans are to make available a similar display in 1986 with some modification to make it less cumbersome.

Staff attended a beef industry seminar entitled "Strategies for Success" which indicated that all sectors of the industry, producers, retailers and government must work closely together. Beef has lost some ground in terms of its share of total meat sales. This can be partially counteracted by measures such as innovative retailing and educating consumers in the area of the nutritional merits of beef.

Beef producers were also assisted in collecting information necessary to assess the Beef Tripartite Stabilization Plan. This was accomplished through information meetings on the subject, through individual consultation as well as assistance by phone and mail outs. The Province signed the Tripartite Beef Stabilization Plan with the Government of Canada late in 1985.

Pork

The Branch continued to administer the Hog Stabilization Program as well as the transportation subsidy and hog marketing assistance program to processors. Market prices were adversely affected by the U.S. Countervail investigation against pork, particularly during the second quarter. The 1985 average market price was $68.36 per cwt. while the average support price was $79.00 per cwt. Government assistance to processors under the transportation assistance program was changed from $1.00 per hog to $1.15 per hog effective June 1, 1985.

Issues dealt with in cooperation with the Hog Commodity Board through the year included the U.S. Countervailing Duty investigation, speed-up of payouts under provincial stabilization, establishing base support prices with the development of one forumula for determining current production costs.

An assessment of the Quality Swine Program has been undertaken, initiated by the Swine Commodity Team. This is being done to determine the effectiveness of the total system in providing quality stock to the entire swine industry.

Dairy

Assistance was provided once again to the P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board in a random survey of 100 milk producers. Information was collected in a phone survey on production trends. This information was then given to the board for computer analysis.

Work continues on the feasibility of diverting dairy bull calves into veal production units. This could be accomplished by selling young calves to veal operations in other areas or through veal production units set up here. Cash flows and production costs analysis indicate that veal production is less profitable then was first indicated by information provided from Ontario feed dealers. However, work continues in assessing current prices and cost information.

The Branch continued a close relationship with the Dairy Industry through liaison with Island producers, processors and transporters and regionally through Maritime Milk Commissions as well as dairy agencies in other provinces.

Branch staff represented the department at the Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee and Atlantic Dairy Council meetings and served on the Dairy Commodity Team, Quality Improvement Committee and the Steering Committee of the Dairy Products Opportunity Study. Audit functions and the accumulation of dairy statistics were carried out.

The Branch administered the Cream Producers' Assistance Program, distributing $40,000 to farm separated cream producers.

Through the Milk Marketing Commission, Class I milk pricing, bulk milk hauling rates and industry licenses were administered.

Lamb

The Branch has continued its involvement along with Sheep Breeders Association members and Lamb Co-op members in the Small Farms Group Lamb Marketing Project. Producers here are interested in cooperating to supply lamb to Quebec at times when supply is lowest there. However, the Island Lamb Co-op has been doing an excellent job of supplying quality lamb to retail outlets throughout the year so seasonal oversupply is not as much a problem as it once was.

Fur Animals

Assistance was provided to the P.E.I. Fur Breeders Association in hosting a fur delegation from the Soviet Union and Northwest Territories. The main emphasis of the tour was to study production techniques in Eastern Canada with future breeding stock sales a possible result of the visit.

Assistance was offered to the Rabbit Breeders Association in organizing an information session for producers and prospective producers.

Crops Marketing

Potatoes

The initial task facing the Potato Marketing Co-ordinator was to learn as much as possible in as short a time as possible about this rather complex industry. The coordinator made many visits to producers, dealers and exporters as well as attending meetings and working with the Potato Marketing Board and the Potato Producers' Association.

One of the first exposures was to the "Cost Recovery" negotiations during which the industry was able to have fees for inspection services rendered from the high level asked for to the more reasonable level which was agreed on. No fees would have been the desired result, but it was obvious from the early negotiations this was not to be.

The need for a Seed Promotion Kit became obvious and negotiations were conducted with Video East Productions for the development of this promotional tool. The Potato Marketing Board, Agriculture Canada and this Branch shared the cost.

The Financial Situation for the Potato sector became a concern as a result of lower than cost of production prices and this resulted in meetings between the industry and the Department of Agriculture, the financial institutions and as well with the Federal Minister of Agriculture and his staff. Stabilization was requested for both the 1984 and 1985 crops. Tripartite Stabilization for potatoes is a new possibility and is being looked at by both the Potato Marketing Board and the Potato Producers' Association. Tripartite Stabilization could provide a partial answer to the dramatic price fluctuations experienced by potato growers.

The Potato Marketing Board was assisted by the Marketing Branch in many of its endeavours including a session in Training for Chairmen, in effective meeting principles and chairman orientation program.

The coordinator attended and assisted the potato industry at the Royal Winter Fair and the fourth annual North American Seed Potato Seminar.

In 1985 trade relationships came into question between Maine and Prince Edward Island potato industries and in an effort to help better understand the issue, the Maine Governor called the Blainehouse Conference, and Donald MacKenzie of O'Leary attended to represent Prince Edward Island. As a result of this conference, a further Government to Government contact was established. This effort was well received and further meetings are anticipated.

The coordinator dealt with other areas including potato Freedom to Move, a new transportation policy white paper, a potato trademark, plant breeders rights and a seed potato inspection management review.

Hay Market Development

Support for initiatives in developing hay as a cash crop continued. In an effort to improve organization and communication within the export hay industry, the Island Hay & Straw Cooperative Ltd. was formed in August, 1985.

Emphasis was placed on developing Newfoundland and Great Britain as the major markets for P.E.I. hay. A combination of the improving quality of hay in P.E.I. and a poor crop in Great Britain showed an export tonnage increase of 650 per cent over 1984.

The Branch worked with the Co-op in the acquisition of equipment for compacting and transporting hay.

New markets for premium and substandard grades were identified and investigated to ensure continued growth in this industry.

Grain

The marketing staff assisted the Grain Elevators Corporation in the conduct of a grain survey. A good deal of staff time has been spent working with the Elevator's Board of Directors to develop new programs designed to improve the services offered by the Corporation.

A staff member has participated in the development of a strategy for increased feed self sufficiency in the Maritime Region.

A staff member participated in the Atlantic Grains Council representing the needs of the grain industry common to the Maritime region.

The Markeing Branch developed a grain kit designed as an educational display to increase knowledge and understanding of the importance of our grain industry. This kit will be available for use by farm groups, schools, etc.

Cole Crops

The P.E.I. Cole Crops Growers' Cooperative Ltd., with planning, logistical and financial support from the Marketing Branch, experienced some success growing improved brussel sprouts and cauliflower varieties.

The Co-op arranged for the production of transplants in greenhouses and operated the shipping and grading facility during harvest.

Tissue Culture

Westech Agriculture Ltd. entered the Florida strawberry plant market with large scale trial shipments. Westech is confident that plants given to growers and research facilities in Hillsborough Co., Florida will perform well and bring about commercial orders.

The Branch continued its assistance to Westech as other species such as black current, blueberry, apple and poinsettia are investigated for propagation by tissue culture.

Soybeans

Assistance was provided to some individual producers in the marketing of their soybeans to Nova Scotia & New Brunswick.

Cranberries

The department again assisted the Goose River Cooperative in arranging markets for fresh strawberries. We also worked with a local processor in arranging supplies for a new cranberry product introduced to local markets.

Blueberries

Staff continues to work with the Blueberry Marketing Cooperative in securing suitable markets for their blueberries. Although '85 was a difficult year the Co-op was able to successfully market all of their crop.

Strawberries

The department assisted the P.E.I. Vegetable Growers' Cooperative with the planning and implementation of a program to freeze and market strawberries for the local strawberry producers.

Strawberries

Assistance was provided in arranging a fresh market in Newfoundland for air shipments of fresh strawberries.

Pedigreed Seed

The Branch assisted the Pedigreed Seed Growers Marketing Board in a seed usage and attitude survey designed to determine future direction of the pedigreed Seed Board activities.

Greenhouse Growers

The Branch assisted the greenhouse industry in the development of and presentation of an awareness program designed to increase use of local greenhouse products.

Blueberry Export Marketing

The department assisted the Wild Blueberry Association of North America with a national and an international promotional campaign to increase sales of wild blueberries in Canada, United States, Germany, England and Japan.

Commodity Education and Promotion Program

The Commodity Education and Promotion Programs of the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture are designed to assist Island agricultural groups in the education and the promotion of their products to chosen clientele.

The Education and Promotion Program of the Marketing Branch supports two primary objectives.

These objectives and their corresponding programs are as follows:

Objective: (1) To promote the use and value of agriculturally produced foods and their relationship to overall good eating habits.

Commodity Group Projects

Through the Promotion Committee of each of the following agricultural commodity groups, boards or associations, Education and Promotion Programs are planned, co-ordinated and implemented, on their behalf.

DAIRY: A. "The School Milk Program". The P.E.I. Department of Agriculture is represented on the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd. by Patricia Manning, and Nancy Reddin, Montague District Home Economist.

The Foundation administers the School Milk Program on behalf of the P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board, the P.E.I. Fluid Milk Processor's Association, the P.E.I. Department of Education and the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture. This year the Foundation changed its fiscal year from April 1 - March 31 to July 1 - June 30, to coincide with the school year. This is for easier accounting and collection of more meanful statistical reports. Particpation: During 1984-85, 64 of 72 eligible elementary and junior high, and high schools were participating in the program. Participation for 1985-86 is 69 of 72 eligible schools.

For the 1984-85 and 1985-86 school years the cost to the student per serving of white milk was 12c/250mL carton serving.

The majority (42) of the schools are using dispensers and tend to have a consistently higher participation rate than those serving milk in the carton. 27.1 per cent as compared to 19.5 per cent. Total milk sales reached almost 1,000,000 (971,552) servings during the 1984-85 school year.

Education, Research and Promotion

One objective of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation is to increase the milk consumption of elementary and junior high students and to help children develop lifelong, good eating habits and positive attitudes towards nutrition. To help achieve this objective the following education, research and promotion activities were carried out:

Other promotion and nutrition education materials were also provided to students and teachers, such as food models, posters, games, and three new nutrition films, two in French.

They administer and monitor the program and are responsible for implementing the education, research and promotion projects.

Both are Directors of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd. and act as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

Additional details of the School Milk Program are provided in the Annual report of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd.

It is only through the excellent support and cooperation from many groups including teachers, principals, superintendents, School" milk coordinators, dairies and the dairy producers, that the Foundation has been able to make the School Milk Program a continued success.

Dairy

To support the Promotion Programs of the P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board, financial assistance was given on the P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board's evaluation survey for the Irreplaceable Milk T.V. advertising campaign.

In cooperation with the Board and the West Prince District Home Economist, a Marketing Workshop for women in the dairy industry was conducted. Attendance was approximately 25.

Lamb

The P.E.I. Lamb Co-op's objectives are "to make consumers more aware that fresh Island lamb is available and "educate the users of lamb how to better prepare and use lamb for family and guests".

Promotion and Education Projects included:

A. October, 1985 Lamb Month. . . . .October, '85 was the focus for a promotion consisting of (i) in-store demonstrations; (ii) up-grading of the lamb displays at the meat counter; (including new recipe stickers), and (iii) newspaper and advertising. (iv) Media public relations, via news releases, CornerPost, Food News, etc.

B. A new publication "Island Lamb For All Occasions" was tested and printed.

C. A food service pilot project with selected outlets. This included the development of a new tent card.

Potatoes

To support the promotion programs of the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board.

A. The publication "Choice Cuts" was translated and printed for the French market. It was also reprinted in English. The cost for design and printing were shared. The objective of this publication is to answer the questions of the health and diet conscious consumer. The publication is for distribution at trade shows and at out of province retail outlets.

B. Assistance was given for professional people to staff the Board's booth at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and the Maritime Winter Fair.

Beef

In cooperation with the P.E.I. Cattlemen's Association and the Beef Information Centre, a "Cut it with Island Freezer Beef" promotion was held during the fall, 1985. It consisted of:

(a) A freezer beef directory compilation & distribution,

(b) radio advertising,

(c) newspaper ads with a list of freezer beef suppliers,

(d) newspaper ads advertising the Freezer Beef Directory with send back coupons,

(e) insert in Women's Institute Newsletter with information and send back coupons, and

(f) a meat cutters workshop.

Note: coupon response was approximately 1500.

Vegetables

Fact sheets: Information was prepared and developed on the selection, care, usage and nutritional value of potatoes for the Extension Branches, "Vegetable Fact sheets for home and Market Gardeners".

Horticultural Days: A microwave demonstration for participants on P.E.I. vegetables was conducted as part of the Horticultural Days Program.

Produce Seminar for Retailers planned in cooperation with P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board and P.E.I. Development Agency. Conducted section on consumer trends; other topics covered were answering consumer requests and building successful displays.

Participation: approximately 30 retailers from across P.E.I.

Jointly with the Agricultural Groups promotion committees and the P.E.I. Development Agency, the following education and promotion programs were conducted:

PORK The P.E.I. Hog Commodity Marketing Board takes PART IN BOTH PROVINCIAL AND MARITIME education and promotion programs.

Provincial programs included:

A. A Home Barbecue promotion consisting of: (a) the distribution of the publication "Hear the Sizzle .... Smell the Aroma" with supporting newspaper advertising. Coupon response of approximately 200.

B. The P.E.I. Pork Promoters is a group of women in the pork industry. Their projects have included selling of pork promotion items through their sales booth "The Pig Pen" and developing and distributing a newsletter for all women in the pork industry.

C. The Sizzler — the sponsorship of the successful private company which caters to pork barbecues on P.E.I.

D. Food Fairs — a three day consumer food fair in Summerside was attended.

E. Christmas Promotion — consisting of newspaper advertising promoting the use of pork for holiday menus.

Maritime Programs are planned and carried out through the Pork Producers Maritime Promotion Committee. Programs include:

A. APEX —representation at the Atlantic Provinces Restaurant Show in Moncton.

B. Atlantic Winter Fair and Maritime Winter Fair — representation at these two consumer fairs.

C. Major Maritime Promotion — "Taste the Difference with Maritime Pork" held during March and April, 1985.

The Promotion objective was to increase awareness and usage of pork among Maritime consumers with emphasis placed on pork of Maritime origin.

The promotion consisted of:

— 5 full page color ads in Chatelaine magazine (spread over March and April issues)

— 1 full-page color ad plus an 8 page recipe insert in Atlantic Insight Magazine.

- 16 small sizer ads in seven English daily newspapers throughout the three provinces (spread over the eight weeks of March and April)
- eight small size ads in three French weekly newspapers in New Brunswick
- 200 press kits sent to all the newspapers in the three provinces
- an information kit sent to the regional meat managers of all the grocery chains informing them of the promotion in general and specifically which pork cuts would be featured in our ads each week.
- a questionnaire mailed out to all respondents to our ads along with the Bon Appetite recipe booklet (envelopes with prepaid postage were also included in order to increase the percentage of return). Results of this survey are being compiled free of charge by Agriculture Canada

Coupon response totalled over 4,000; this compares with 324 responses received during the 1983 promotion.

Eggs

The Promotion Committee of the P.E.I. Egg Commodity Marketing Board takes part in national programs developed and implemented by C.E.M.A. as well as provincially planned and implemented programs.

Their activities included:

A. National Programs;

Participation in T.V., magazines and outdoor advertising,

B. Provincial Programs,

(1) Senior Workshops - approximately 20 presentations were delivered to Senior groups. The objective was to demonstrate the use of eggs for easy and nutritious supper and dinner meals and snacks.

(2) Mini Food Fairs - Eggs were represented at one three day consumer fair in Summerside.

Farmers Markets

The Marketing Branch provides technical assistance and limited financial support for the establishment and development of farmers' markets. At present there are six cooperatively run markets located in Tignish, Bloomfield, Summerside, Charlottetown, Wood Islands, Montague and in Souris. The Charlottetown market is operated year round, the others are seasonal. There has also been marketing and promotion education assistance offered to various farm marketing groups and individuals. This has involved travel and attendance at marketing seminars in the North-East.

The Marketing Branch has a planning unit staffed by two persons who provide strategic and operational planning support to the Department in general and to the Planning Secretariat in particular. It also provides analytical and evaluation support services.

Planning

The agricultural sub-agreement of the five year Economic and Regional Development Agreement (E.R.D.A.) was signed in June of 1984. This fiscal year, 1985/86, has seen the first complete year of operation of the subagreement.

Activities related to the Agri-Food Development Agreement continued to require a lot of staff time. The required documentation for the claim procedure was finalized for the Extension Support portion of the Agreement. The 1985-86 Extension Support Project was prepared and signed. The three remaining projects for cost-shared funding were signed in July, 1985.

The reporting procedure required by the Agreement continues to be developed. The contracted evaluation of the Sub-agreement is being integrated wherever possible. Considerable time was involved in the evaluation contracts for the Sub-agreement. The first phase of evaluation involved the contract for evaluation design and compilation of appropriate baseline data. The interim evaluation of the Sub-agreement's operation will be completed by March '86.

The Planning Unit provided support to the Planning Secretariat. In addition to the regular meetings to recommend on policy issues and specific projects, the Planning Secretariat receives reports from the Department's commodity planning teams. The Planning Unit provides support to the commodity teams in their efforts, and assists in development of joint strategies with Agriculture Canada (Regional Development).

Being a member of the Information Sub-committee for the Agri-Food Agreement, there was involvement in finalizing committee Terms of Reference, and discussing areas of cooperation in information delivery related to the Agreement.

Other planning activities included service as contact person for information required by the Auditor General's staff in conducting a general audit of the Department, and coordinating the compilation of the briefing book for the annual session of the Legislature.

The Planning Unit also provides, on behalf of the Department, appropriate agricultural planning and coordinating services to the provincial central agencies such as the Cabinet Secretariat, Intergovernmental Affairs office and the Treasury Board.

Staff of the Unit represent the province in terms of the Newfoundland/Prince Edward Island Renewable Resource Agreement and provide logistical support to the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers agricultural projects.

Staff efforts also involve sitting on the Land Development Corporation, Small Business Incentive Review and Small Farm Advisory Boards.

Other Activities

In the general area of staff development and training, there were three major projects during the year. A two-day workshop on basic marketing principles was organized for staff of the Marketing Branch and District Home Economists.Dr. Michael Heffring of the Heffring Research Group was the workshop resource person.

As chair of the program for the annual conference of the Canadian Society of Extension held at the University of Prince Edward Island in June, a two-day program of workshops and formal presentations related to extension theory and techniques was arranged. Resource people for the Conference were members of Canadian Society of Extension from various provinces.

The annual staff conference was held in October with Dr. Harvey Silver of Toronto as keynote speaker on the theme of motivation. In addition, nine workshop sessions were organized on specific topics, as well as an update on Department programs. As one of three staff responsible for organizing the conference, time was spent on contacting resource people and organizing the conference.

Liaison to Women's Institute

Branch staff continued to provide liaison and support services to the Women's Institute Board of Directors in developing and implementing their programs. Projects and activities which supported the objectives of both Women's Institute and the Department included leadership development/training workshops; conferences and workshops; joint sponsorship of a food preservation information service; support of activities to improve understand of the agriculture industry through the Women's Institute "From Farm To Table" program; and assistance in presenting a booth and program at the Atlantic Farm Mechanization Show. (Details of the projects are provided in theWomen's Institute Annual Report).

Home Economics Program Support

Through membership on the Home Economics Coordinating Committee it is possible to provide both coordination of programs between Women's Institute and the Department home economics staff, and to serve as a linkage to home economics services in other provinces. The Canadian Agricultural Extension Council is a major source of information on extension programs in other provinces.

In the past year a pilot project was initiated to provide a monthly newsletter from District Home Economists to the Women's Institute members. The newsletter is a means of promoting Island commodities, advertising up-coming programs, and providing relevant financial management information. An evaluation of the newsletter will be conducted in May '86.

Strawberries

In cooperation with the P.E.I. Strawberry Growers Association the following was carried out:

A. A winter promotion of newspaper advertising. Its objective was to remind consumers to use their frozen berries.

B. A summer promotion consisting of:

(1) a merchandizing kit and point of sale material for retail produce managers,

(2) Newspaper ads listing growers' names,

(3) Newspaper recipe ads with a response of approxmately 200,

(4) The distribution of the publication "Island Strawberry Favorites",

(5) A contest for consumers encouraging greater sales from the farm gate.

Again the P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board cooperated in this campaign.

Blueberries

A. The testing, development and printing of a new blueberry recipe publication "August Blue. . . .A berry for all Seasons".

B. The development of a Blueberry Recipe Contest in cooperation with the Culinary Institute and W.B.A.N.A. The contest encourages the development and use of wild blueberries in the food service industry. The winner will receive a $500 bursary to attend the APEX restaurant show in Halifax in March of '86.

Projects involving all of the agricultural commodity groups and various agencies were also carried out within the marketing budget. These projects come under the following objective:

OBJECTIVE: To educate the consumer as to the role of the agriculture industry in the Island economy, the problems and importance of the agriculture producer in the food system and to inform agricultural producers of consumers concerns.

These projects included:

A. "Food News" ... a week day one minute food commentary carried on radio stations CFCY,CHTN,and CJRW.

The Promotion Specialist was responsible for the researching, writing and airing of 260 "Food News" releases. The purpose of these releases is to educate consumers about the variety and uses of Island agriculture products, and the problems and concerns in producing and marketing these products.

B. "Country Kitchen" and "Country Corner", a bi-weekly newspaper release with accompanying photographs, featured Island farm women and their on-farm activities. The farm women promote their products through sharing a favorite family-tested recipe of the agricultural product they produce. This is carried out with the help of the Charlottetown and Summerside District Home Economists.

C. Other - Media Contribution to CornerPost and Department of Agriculture broadcasts as required.

D. Microwave Magic Workshops (Spring '85): Seven microwave cooking demonstrations with approximately 600 participants held across the province with the objective of promoting Island agricultural products. This program was carried out in cooperation with the District Home Economists.

E. Country Kitchen Christmas Workshops (Fall '85): Eight food demonstrations with approximately 800 participants held across the province featuring recipes from "Country Kitchen" and "Country Corner" newspaper releases. The objective of these workshops was to promote Island agricultural products. This program was carried out in cooperation with the District Home Economists and the Provincial Board of the Women's Institute.

F. Community School Island Food Course: coordinated with the various commodity groups and organizations (Beef, Dairy, Potatoes, Pork, Eggs, Fruits & Vegetables, District Home Economists, Fisheries) the development of individual food demonstrations and information programs available on request to Community School (10 maximum sessions in each commodity) individually or as a full Island food course.

Markets Information and Statistics

In early December, the Branch published the **P.E.I. Potato Statistical Summary,** a collection of 70 tables and graphs for U.S.A., Canada and P.E.I. on production, trade, disposition and consumption of potatoes as well as other data relevant to the industry.

A grains survey was assembled on computer and major trends identified and analyzed. This has allowed for more accurate projections and reporting for the 1985 crop.

Potato Acreage Estimate Survey

The Branch assisted Statistics Canada in this survey designed to establish acreage of potatoes planted in the province by variety. Assistance provided was in the form of staff time for actual on-farm survey tasks.

Statistics and Market Information

The Marketing Branch continues in its role of collecting, compiling and dispersing market information. Statistics Canda provides much of the statistical information regarding production, farm cash receipts, farm income, etc. while we rely on industry contacts to provide up-to-date pricing information.

The code-a-phone system, which has daily updated information on livestock, cereals, and field crops markets is used regularly by the farming community. In addition, the Agricultural Market Report is compiled and published weekly as a source of agricultural pricing and sales information.

The annual statistics handbook and supplemental statistical sheet were published as well.

In addition, the Branch answers numerous phone and written requests for statistical information. Information is provided to university and high school students who are completing projects requiring agricultural markets information.

Marketing staff also participate in radio programs, seminars, conferences, and provide written information for newspapers and local farm publications on a wide range of commodities.

The Marketing Branch is also responsible for administration of the Limestone Incentive Policy. Approximately 1200 applicants received assistance during 1985.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
COMMODITY SUPPLY AND CONSUMPTION
BALANCE SHEET — 1985

COMMODITY		TOTAL ESTIMATE PROVINCIAL SUPPLY	TOTAL ESTIMATE PROVINCIAL CONSUMPTION	SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)
Asparagus	(lbs.)	0	84,000 Total	(84,000)
Beans	(lbs.)	70,000	650,000 Total	(580,000)
Beets	(lbs.)	2,900,000	207,000 Total	2,693,000
Cabbage	(lbs.)	3,500,000	221,000 Total	3,279,000
Carrots	(lbs.)	1,687,500	2,727,000 Total	(1,039,500)
Cauliflower	(lbs.)	240,000	775,000 Total	(535,000)
Celery	(lbs.)	0	1,210,000 Total	(1,210,000)
Sweet Corn	(lbs.)	270,000	2,740,000 Total	(2,470,000)
Cucumber	(lbs.)	430,000	720,000 Total	(290,000)
Lettuce	(lbs.)	360,000	2,590,000 Total	(2,230,000)
Onions	(lbs.)	0	1,873,000 Total	(1,873,000)
Parsnips	(lbs.)	200,000	39,000 Fresh	161,000
Peppers	(lbs.)	0	550,000 Total	(550,000)
Radish	(lbs.)	0	151,000 Total	(151,000)
Rutabaga	(lbs.)	9,100,000	630,000 Total	8,470,000
Tomatoes	(lbs.)	60,000	2,050,000 Fresh	(1,990,000)
Strawberries	(lbs.)	1,600,000	501,000 Fresh	1,099,000
Blueberries	(lbs.)	750,000	45,000 Fresh	705,000
Cranberries	(lbs.)	36,000	95,000 Fresh	(59,000)
Potatoes	(cwt.)	17,616,000	184,550 Total	17,431,450
Brussel Sprouts	(lbs.)	450,000	115,000 Total	335,000
Broccoli	(lbs.)	350,000	572,000 Total	(220,000)
Eggs	(doz.)	3,031,000	2,243,708	787,292
Chicken	(lbs.)	1,014,000	5,093,000 Total	(4,079,000)
Turkey	(lbs.)	13,000	1,106,000 Total	(1,093,000)
Lamb	(lbs.)	55,000	652,000 Total	(597,000)
Pork	(lbs.)	30,163,000	7,809,000 Total	22,354,000
Beef	(lbs.)	20,930,000	10,729,000 Total	10,201,000
Fluid Milk	(l.)	13,515,000	13,515,000 Total	0

The foregoing table provides an estimate of Prince Edward Island's production and consumption of selected agricultural commodities. A deficit position means that provincial consumption exceeds provincial production. This could mean that a market opportunity exists for the production of that commodity in the province provided of course the commodity can be successfully and competitively grown.

A surplus position means that provincial production exceeds provincial consumption. Normally this commodity would be exported from the Province.

All figures are based upon estimates of production and consumption for 1985.

Plant Industry Services Branch

The Branch is responsible for providing farmers with technical advisory services in selective areas of crop production, land management, and related requirements.

However, the main thrust of Branch activities involves the potato industry. Essential services required by potato farmers to keep ahead in this highly competitive business are provided by the Potato Industry Services Program. Examples of these services include equipment disinfection, inspection of certified seed after planting, and table potatoes offered for sale within the province, cull burial, disease and weed control, and providing information about potato production with emphasis on the technology required for increased productivity.

The technical programs of the Branch have provided farmers with a range of services and information which apply to the management of the soil and crops resources as well as the control of crop diseases, pests and weeds. A detailed presentation of these programs is included in the following sections of this report.

The Plant Industry Services Branch has been assigned the responsibility to implement the **Pesticides Control Act**, the **Agricultural Standards Act**, and has also been designated to represent the Minister of Agriculture in coordinating with his Agent, the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board, on the implementation strategy of the **Plant Disease Eradication Act.**

A number of services have been initiated or expanded during 1985 to meet the special requirements of the potato industry and agriculture in general.

Potato Extension Program

Activities of the Potato Extension Program provided farmers and members of the potato trade in general with the opportunity to observe first hand the changing technology in potato production as and where it happens. Examples of the program include the sponsorship of potato farmers to visit Europe for the purpose of observing the technology of seed potato production in Scotland and the Netherlands and to learn more about market competition; and farmers' visits to Western U.S.A. to observe new concepts in Russet variety production.

Another activitiy receiving good support from the potato industry is the daily flow of information to potato producers through radio, media releases, fact sheets, as well as special topic seminars, with the objective of keeping the P.E.I. potato industry up-to-date and well-informed about the current and future issues in the potato business.

The program also included demonstrations and static pictoral displays of production concepts such as disease control, variety selection, and crop nutrition technology.

The potato and tobacco plant tissue analysis program was initiated by the Provincial Soil and Feed Testing laboratory in 1985 to complement present services of soil and feed testing to evaluate the ability of potato and tobacco crops to extract nutrients under local soil and weather conditions at different times during the growing season.

Plant tissue analysis is an effective tool to assist extension staff in better evaluating the fertilizer requirements of both of these crops in close consultation with the concerned farmer.

This program has proven very popular, with demand for these services exceeding expectations of the Branch.

The truck disinfection program complements the disinfection services already provided to potato farmers for their storage and handling equipment. Its objective is to ensure that potato diseases are eradicated and controlled by using better sanitation and disinfection in addition to other precautions, such as the selection of seed.

This program ensures that the province and its potato industry is well-protected against the entry of diseases from incoming trucks to the province. Two stations for disinfection are at entry points of Borden and Wood Islands, and all potato farmers and members of the potato trade benefit from this program.

The Plant Industry Services Branch has been assigned the responsibility for the program of potato inspection within the province. The objective is to ensure that high quality standards for P.E.I. potatoes in all provincial retail stores is maintained. The program also provides a liaison/mediator person to ensure that good working relationships and interpretation of contract standards are adhered to by all concerned on all potatoes delivered to the processing plant in the grading process.

A pallet disinfection service was initiated at the Summerside wharf this year to sanitize all pallets used in the handling and delivery of seed and table potatoes to the Summerside wharf for export shipment.

The potato truck disinfection program continued to service the potato industry during the year. However, the disinfection centre in Albany was moved at the end of the year to a new location at the site of the Canada Cement Company where facilities are more suitable for the operation.

The Plant Industry Services Branch has worked closely with the P.E.I. potato industry as represented by an elected Chairman and members of the Potato Marketing Board, the Potato Producers Association, exporters, Potatoes Canada, and potato dealers and growers to develop services and programs which specifically meet a pressing or a long-term need of the industry.

Special export market information and customer services were provided by the Branch to the potato export industry in coordination with Agriculture Canada, Potatoes Canada and other Federal Departments.

The Branch staff and Director served on different agricultural research and extension services committees in the Atlantic Region with counterparts from the other Atlantic Provinces, the Government of Canada, Regional farmers' organizations, and agri-business. These committees cover areas in agriculture such as soil management and fertility; crop production; weed and disease control; land use; and general farm management.

Potato Industry Services

Potato Extension Information — Delivery Program

The Plant Industry Services Branch carried out an intensive technology awareness program using the public media during the year. The program which included the following elements, was specifically targeted for potato producers:

1. Daily one-minute radio broadcasts, entitled **Potato Crop Guide**; carried on local radio stations from April through September;
2. Weekly 15-minute radio broadcasts, entitled **Potato Crop Report**, also carried on some local radio stations from April through September;
3. Periodic press releases, on topics related to the potato industry in general, with emphasis on items relating to production and management technology. In 1985 a total of 40 such topics were released to the P.E.I. media;
4. Publications of a regular section called **"Eyes on Potatoes"** in the Department's monthly newsletter, **CornerPost**;
5. Inclusion of a regular 2-page insert called **"Potato News"** in "PMB", the potato monthly bulletin of the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board. Information in this publication is of a technical nature, related solely to production technology.

Technology Exchange Program

Potato Producers Delegation to mid and Northwestern U.S.A.

The objective of this tour was to offer to potato industry representatives an opportunity to view potato handling, production, storage, packagine and merchandizing techniques employed in the U.S.A.

Special emphasis was placed on production techniques (nutrient management, seed handling, crop rotation, cultivation) for the Russet Burbank variety.

This variety is steadily gaining importance on P.E.I. especially in the countpack and processing trade. Much emphasis has been placed on this variety in the U.S.A. and a wealth of information was gained by P.E.I. representatives on the tour. The two representatives of the P.E.I. potato industry were Mr. Melis Visser of Victoria and Mr. George Webster of Middleton.

Potato Producers European Delegation

A potato technology tour to Scotland and the Netherlands provided P.E.I. seed potato producers with an opportunity to assess production and marketing systems used by these countries in the development and growth of their seed potato industries.

Of particular interest was the industry in the Netherlands, long recognized as a major competitive force in world potato markets.

The nine-member tour (eight seed potato producers and one Department representative) arrived in Scotland on June 23, 1985. Conducted along the way by representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Research Institutes, and Universities, the tour visited equipment research and development facilities, seed potato breeding stations, and private growers. However, the major portion of the tour was focused on the Netherlands' industry. Since the Netherlands is relatively small and with an effective infra-structure, the tour was able to visit many producers and plant breeding stations throughout the country.

Of particular interest was the history of industry development and growth, especially the important roles played by private and farmer co-op potato breeders, seed inspection service and the grower organizations. The tour facilitated P.E.I. producers to judge for themselves the impact of producing protected seed potato varieties, referred to as Breeders' Rights in North America. Although Breeders' Rights legislation does not exist as yet in Canda, the tour assisted the industry in evaluting potential impacts of such legislation in Canada and Prince Edward Island. Potato producers who participated in this technology exchange project were unanimous in their agreement that certain guidelines and experiences which they learned during their visit to Scotland and the Netherlands will be useful in the development of future directions for the potato industry in Prince Edward Island.

Potato Grower Delegation to the 4th Annual North America Seed Potato Confernece

A seed potato producer participated in this delegation to attend, observe, and participate in the proceedings

of this important seminar in Denver, Colorado. Current and future issues of seed potato production and marketing were discussed. P.E.I. seed potato growers had the opportunity to meet with potential clients in different American States. Also, disease and soil pathogen control problems and their limitations on seed production were identified by American researchers to the benefit of seminar participants. Copies of the publication "P.E.I. Seed Potato Growers Certification List 1985" were distributed to American seed growers attending the seminar.

Workshops and Seminars

Two major seminars for the benefit of potato producers were conducted by the Branch during the past year. The first dealt with "Potato Pest Management" while the second dealt with "Potato Soil Fertility and Crop Fertilizers' Requirements".

The Pest Management seminar was held in Summerside February 6, 1985 and was attended by potato producers, extension and research staff, and agribusiness. Current issues in potato disease management such as development of resistance to pesticides, and the impact of diseases and pests on marketing qualities of the potato were discussed. Leading authorities on research in potato diseases and pests were invited to participate in the proceedings of the seminar.

The Soil Fertility and Potato Crop Fertilizers' Requirements seminar was held in Charlottetown November 26, 1985. Improved management of nitrogen fertilizers and the role of tissue analysis in the management of the potato crop nutrition during the growing season were major topics discussed at the seminar. Distinguished resource people in potato crop fertility research took part in the seminar sessions. The seminar was attended by potato producers and members of the fertilizer trade.

The technology of potato production, storage, handling, and merchandising is advancing at a fast rate all over the world. It is therefore necessary that different facets of this technology are evaluated for possible implementation on P.E.I. farms. Advance technology in production and marketing is a guarantee for the success of the potato sector now and in the future.

The Potato Extension Program has placed emphasis on promoting concepts of proven technology for implementation in different aspects of the potato production cycle, storage, and handling. In this regard, a pictorial and descriptive promotion of certain concepts was conducted under the Potato Extension Program.

Different concepts of potato technology were promoted, using a display platform and relevant photography enlarged to a size no less than 18" x 22" with comments to describe the message of these pictures. A few examples of concepts which were promoted during the year included late blight control, potato soil and tissue testing, the significant of disinfection in disease control, and the role of aphid control in elimination of virus diseases.

1985 Potato Crop Statistics

According to the terms laid down in the Plant Disease Eradication Act regulations, it is mandatory in Prince Edward Island that all potato crops in excess of 0.1 hectares (a) be planted with Certified or higher class seed; and (b) for the grower to register these plantings with either the Federal or Provincial authorities for inspection.

During the past growing season, three retired seed potato inspectors were engaged by the Provincial Department of Agriculture to conduct field and harvest inspections on 1,319.6 hectares or 3,260.7 acres of potatoes grown on 70 farms where no part of the crop was entered for re-certification.

A total of 692 seed growers applied for field inspection on 23,341.1 hectares or 57,675.8 acres planted from Elite or Foundation class seed. These growers also planted 3,372.2 hectares or 8,332.7 acres which were not eligible for re-certification, but were given one field inspection and were also checked at harvest time by Federal inspectors. Altogether, 28,033.2 hectares or 69,270.0 acres were known to be grown on Prince Edward Island in the 1985 crop year.

The six main potato varieties accounted for 96.6 per cent of the total potato production. The following table compares total acreages of these varieties in the 1983, 1984 and 1985 crop years (in acres):

Variety	1985	1984	1983
Russet Burbank	30,610	29,686	29,142
Kennebec	13,881	16,419	16,428
Sebago	7,434	7,759	6,978
Superior	9,500	7,529	7,255
Shepody	3,771	2,892	2,667
Red Pontiac	1,547	1,420	1,363

Meterological Data

All facets of life are profoundly affected by the vagaries of weather, but few to the degree experienced by those engaged in farming. The whole farming operation must proceed as dictated by weather conditions and farmers must be flexible enough to react and at times alter their schedule and plans drastically to minimize the effects of extremes.

During this past growing and harvesting season, April to October, Prince Edward Island received precipitation in a very erratic fashion with wide variations in different areas. The total precipitation recorded at the Research Station at Charlottetown totalled 490.6 mm, down 78 mm from the 76-year average of 568.6 mm. The monthly totals were also varied from a low of 15.5 mm in April, 26.2 mm in July and 26.0 in September to a high of 163.6 mm in June. Western Prince County received substantially lesser amounts than the remainder of the province.

There were 152 consecutive frost-free days recorded at the Research Station in 1985. This period occured between the $-2°C$ reading on May 15 and the $-1°C$ reading of October 14. The last spring killing frost ($-2°C$) was recorded May 15 and the first fall killing frost occurred October 30, which gave a total of 168 killing frost free days or 20 per cent less than the 76-year average of 188 days.

The crop was harvested under almost ideal weather conditions this fall, and field frost was not a problem as quite often occurs. With the exception of late September and the first week of October when the ground was quite dry, the rainfall of October 10 helped soil conditions and the weather for the remainder of the harvesting period was excellent.

Growers harvested an average crop of good quality potatoes this year with about normal fields of round white and reds. The Russet Burbank variety produced a crop of good type tubers, but with a higher percentage than normal of undersized tubers. Several fields had excessive amounts of scab and rhizoctonia. About 2,600 acres were not considered worth harvesting and were left in the fields.

The Florida Test

"Florida", or winter testing of seed potatoes, has become a very important phase of the seed certification processing in Canada as well as the seed producing states in the Northern United States. Each year seed growers are required to select a representative sample from each certification lot. It is important that these samples of 400 small tubers of uniform size are randomly selected to give a good overall sample of the particular seed lot being tested. Samples are selected at harvest time and assembled by the seed potato inspectors and transported to St. John, New Brunswick where all lots from across Canada are placed in the fumigation station and treated with Rendite to assist in dormancy breaking. In 1984 Prince Edward Island growers submitted 1,001 samples for testing, while the number sent in 1985 was down by about 100 at 912 samples.

The three van loads of Canadian seed samples arrived in the Homestead area of Florida in November. The potatoes were unloaded and sorted and the planting operation commenced on the two leased properties and despite a few days lost due to Hurricane "Kate", by November 25, all the Canadian seed lots were in the ground.

All Canadian personnel are involved in the planting of seed lots in Florida, about half of which are from Agriculture Canada and the remainder from the provincial Department of Agriculture in Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and the Elite Seed Farms in these provinces. After Christmas each year, another group drawn from the same sources in approximately the same ratio proceed to the area to conduct the readings to determine the percentage of virus diseases present as well as variety mixtures, if any, in each sample submitted. This provides an advance reading on how a particular crop is expected to perform when planted the following year.

A new method for treating potato seed pieces was developed for the Spring of 1985. There was a cold wet Spring and many potato growers circumvented the normal method of preparing seed and instead carried out a pre-cut treatment of the seed pieces before planting. However, the disadvantage of this was that some potato sets remained in storage after having been cut and treated for a two to three week period. Some Bacterial Soft Rot breakdown problems occured as a result of this delay.

Throughout the potato growing season, Early Blight and Late Blight showed up in potato fields. A large percentage of the potato fields, in the central and western regions of Prince Edward Island showed signs of wilt which were caused by dry weather and the potato wilt disease, called Verticillium Wilt.

The potato disease, Rhizoctonia, was found in a number of potato fields on Prince Edward Island. This fungal disease works in two ways: One by inhibiting young potato plants resulting in a yield loss due to small and off-type tubers; and the other by the death of early seed pieces resulting in no yield from the infected seed pieces.

Various media releases and media scripts on potato diseases were prepared by the Plant Pathologist. Through attending potato growers meetings held in each district on Prince Edward Island, and participating in growers extension meetings sponsored either by the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Chemical companies, the P.E.I. Dealers Association, and the Potato Count-Pack Association, the Provincial Plant Pathologist gained a meaningful exposure to the industry. In turn, more demand for the Plant Pathologist's expertise became evident. The potato grower clientele use of the Plant Diagnostic Services increased by 25 per cent during the 1985 season. Slide presentations on three potato diseases, as well as several display cases, have been established.

The Plant Pathologis has developed a good working relationship with concerned agencies of the potato industry, especially Agriculture Canada Potato Inspectors, and Research Scientists. Work relationships have been established with other agencies such as the Potato Marketing Board, Chemical companies, research scientists in other Provinces, the P.E.I. Institute of Agrologists, Pest Management Society, the Potato Commodity Team, and the Federal Potato Research Advisory Committee.

Extension Plant Pathology

The Extension Plant Pathologist disease identification and control service for Prince Edward Island has provided potato growers with a Plant Diagnostic Service by means of either field observatioon or pathological laboratory tests and examinations. The Provincial Plant Pathologist has identified fungal and bacterial diseases for such crops as potatoes, brussell sprouts, cabbage and greenhouse tomatoes.

Routinely, potato fields and potato storage areas were visited and samples were collected to determine the primary cause or causes of the problem.

Other potato diseases which have occurred during the potato growing season were Botrytis Vine Rot, Early Blight, Verticillium Wilt and Late Blight. Botrytis Vine Rot occurred frequently in various potato fields with no preference to variety. A protectant fungicide was given a temporary registration to combat the development of this disease. In addition to these fungal diseases, dry weather conditions caused a yield reduction of 20-25 per cent in some areas.

Late Blight Forecast Service

The Potato Late Blight Forecasting Program has been developed to assist growers with the scheduling of fungicide applications in order to control Late Blight in potatoes. It has acted as a general awareness program to alert growers of blight outbreaks. Several improvements have been made on the system. (1) In addition to the local papers and radio stations broadcasting the Blight Forecast, the local TV news program, **Compass**, also carried the Blight Forecast; (2) A new computer program was developed to provide a more efficient forecast in a shorter time; (3) The Late Blight Forecast Reports were distributed to the co-ordinators involved in the program.

The program provides a specific disease monitoring system which is essential for the ongoing control of Late Potato Blight in Prince Edward Island. Research on the logistics of the program is being reviewed at the Fredericton Research Station to fine tune the specifics of the program.

A report on this program was presented at the National Conference of the Agriculture Institute of Canada by the Provincial Plant Pathologist in June, 1985.

Potato Disease Control Program

The objective of this program is to control and eventually eradicate infectious diseases of potatoes on Prince Edward Island. Programs aimed towards achieving this goal included: Disinfection of on-farm potato storage and handling equipment, truck disinfection at points of entry at Borden and Wood Islands, potato cull burial assistance, and inspection of available stocks of table potatoes and planted Certified seed potatoes.

These programs provide assistance for proper disposal of all potential disease carrying material, as well, proper sanitation of all farms, trade outlets, and incoming potato transport carriers. Programs' activities are continually monitored and coordinated with related agencies to ensure that our services keep pace with the potato industry and maintain a disease-free environment for the seed potato industry.

The Plant Disease Eradication Act

The Seed Incentive Program under the Plant Disease Eradication Act encourages farmers with diseased crops to clean up their operation and purchase Foundation Class seed for planting. Eligible farmers received assistance at the rate of $30.00 per acre.

Under the Act, the Potato Disease Control Committee is an Advisory Committee to the Minister of Agriculture on issues dealing with potato disease. The membership of this Committee includes the Chairman of the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board.

In order to maintain the high standard of P.E.I. potatoes, the Act states that all potatoes planted on P.E.I. (0.1 hectares or more) must be of Certified Class seed or better. The Act is enforced by the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board in its capacity as the "Agent" for the Minister of Agriculture.

Potato Cull Burial Program

The Potato Cull Burial Assistance Program aids potato producers in disposing of cull potatoes, which if left uncontrolled, pose a disease threat. According to an Agriculture Canada survey, the incidence of Blight has been reduced since the introduction of this program. Under the program, growers are eligible for a 50 per cent reimbursement of the burial cost of all cull potatoes.

Under the Plant Disease Eradication Act, all burials must be completed before June 30 to be eligible for reimbursement. Regulations also state that it is unlawful to spread or dump potatoes on agricultural lands or woodlots between March 1 and September 30. During the 1985 season, the deadline was extended one month, as many growers were unable to meet the June 30 deadline. A total of 115 applications for burials were received and the burial work was completed by 32 firms.

Retail Potato Inspection

The Plant Industry Services Branch initiated the services of a retail potato inspection carried out by a Provincial Tablestock Inspector in May, 1985. This service ensures that all potatoes retailed on Prince Edward Island are of consistent good quality, and conform to proper grade standards.

The standards set under the Provincial Act, **The Agricultural Products Standards Act**, call for potatoes to be graded to Canada No. 1 or the equivalent which has been downgraded to Canada No. 2 only because of size. Canada No. 1 potatoes can be sold in any type of package or bulk, while Canada No. 2's must be sold washed, and in polyethelene bags. The standards set under the Act will ensure that the local consumer receives the best quality potatoes.

The Retail Potato Inspector has visited many farmers and talked with them about the quality of potatoes, and, in accordance with his function, made several requests to have their products removed from stores and replaced with better quality potato merchandise. The Retail Inspector is well-received by Produce Managers in Island stores. because they want to sell top quality potatoes and turnips.

Together with other Provincial Departments, the Retail Inspector helped organize and participated in a one-day seminar for Produce Managers called "Retailing Produce in the 80's". Attendance was excellent and the seminar a success and worthwhile according to retailers who attended.

The Retail Inspector visited approximately 50 growers and visited Island stores for produce quality on an average of once a month in rural P.E.I., and the larger centres about twice a week. The number of stores visited is approximately 75 a week, or 300 a month.

The Retail Inspector also performed, on behalf of the Department, a function known as Potato Liaison Officer, whereby he would visit processing plants on a regular schedule to inspect and report on the quality of potatoes going through the grading system.

In this capacity he reports on the quality of potatoes in accordance with the terms of the contract between the growers of processing potatoes and the processing plants. As a liaison officer, this function serves to protect both parties in this vital segment of our potato industry.

Potato Disinfection Program

The Potato Disinfection Service includes on-farm disinfection of all potato handling equipment, disinfection service for delivery trucks and facilities at major potato packing and processing plants, and a truck disinfection services for all inbound trucks at both Borden and Wood Islands. Mobile disinfection units are available year round to the industry, free of charge, with the intent of the program being to sanitize farms and trade outlets against disease infection.

The truck disinfection services operating at the Borden and Wood Islands scale houses for the past two years have accommodated most empty trucks coming to P.E.I. for potato pick up. This saves time for growers because most trucks arriving at the farm will nave already been disinfected. Loaded trucks arriving at the scales are given directions to where disinfection may be obtained after unloading. Under the Regulations of the Plant Disease Eradication Act, all motor vehicles entering the province for potato pick up must be disinfected prior to picking up potatoes. During peak trucking months, up to 700 trucks have been disinfected at the Borden scale house alone.

In response to a request made by the potato industry, a system for disinfecting pallets on the Summerside wharf was initiated. With the assistance of a forklift, the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture's disinfection unit was able to disinfect 300 to 350 pallets per day. With pallets taken directly back to potato farms, growers were assured of getting sanitized pallets.

In total, the disinfection program completed over 100,000 disinfections in 1985.

Disinfection operators were for the second year, issued bruise test kits in order to accommodate requests from farmers for bruise testing. Complete tests were conducted for various growers and packing lines across the Island. While poor digging conditions increased the potential for bruise, the bruise testing helped growers reduce the actual amount of bruising. Some experiments were conducted with a new type bruise test for black spot bruises. Once perfected, this test will provide a more meaningful test for growers.

Land Resources Services

Soil and Feed Testing

The Department of Agriculture is committed to providing a comprehensive package of management services to farmers. Soil testing, feed testing and plant tissue testing. are services provided by the Plant Industry Services Branch as part of that commitment. Soil testing and plant tissue testing provide information on which to base decisions on fertilizer and limestone programs; whereas feed testing in conjunction with the Livestock Nutrition Program, provides information on a farmer's most effective livestock feeding program.

During the year, 6,120 soil samples, 3,623 feed samples and 352 plant samples were tested for Island farmers. An additional 7,662 samples were analyzed for various government programs and services including 1,568 water samples as part of a long-standing cooperative agreement with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs. Over 103,000 individual tests or analyses were carried out on the 17,737 samples received by the laboratory. A summary of the year's total work is shown below.

The major new initiative undertaken by the laboratory this year involves improved nitrogen and micronutrient nutrition of potatoes based on plant tissue analysis. The techniques evaluated, in respect to potato nutrition and plant tissue analysis, are widely used in the major potato growing areas of the Western United States. A study was carried out to evaluate their applicability to P.E.I. varieties and growing conditions. Demonstration plots were set up on 10 potato operations throughout the province and monitored weekly from early July to late August. Valuable data was obtained from this study, but further evaluation will be necessary.

In order to acquaint potato growers with the results of the summer's trials, plus other topical information in respect to potato fertilization, a seminar was held in Charlottetown November 26. Keen interest was shown by producers and attendance at the seminar was more than 100.

Laboratory Statistics — 1985

Sample Description	Number Completed
Farmers' soils	6,120
Research & special project soils	1,144
Farmers' feed	3,603
Research & special project fees	315
Farmers' plant tissue	352
Research & special project plant tissue	1,154
Veterinary pathology	2,566
Water chemistry analysis	1,568
Other	535
Total samples tested	17,737

Limestone Assistance Program

In its continuing effort to encourage farmers to improve the quality of their soil, the Branch assisted growers wishing to spread limestone by subsidizing the cost of limestone to the farmer at a rate of $11 per tonne to a limit of 180 metric tonnes per year. The Branch assisted 1,250 producers* in the purchase of 47,938 tonnes* of limestone during the season. By the continued use of limestone, farmers will increase the efficiency of fertilizers and their cropping systems.

*Note: April 1, 1985 through December 31, 1985.

Soil Management Services

The Branch responsibility under the ERDA Soil and Water Conservation and Land Management Program continued. To date, about 220 applications have been received, half of which were handed to the Soil and Water Engineering Section for action. The Land Management Section inspected 56 project sites and completed plans for 52. The Soil Specialist, as the Provincial Program Coordinator, participated in the activities of the Program Advisory Committee, dealing with such matters as project approval, operational guidelines, and program delivery methods and evaluation.

Under the ERDA program, approximately 600,000 feet of tile drainage were installed on Island farms, improving crop production potentials on candidate farms, and supporting two local farm drainage firms.

Although there have been a number of runoff and erosion control projects implemented, the major interest was in land drainage. The Soil Specialist and staff evaluated delivery procedures and recommendations were made to Agriculture Canada, Regional Development, for modifications which would improve overall program efficiency and effectiveness.

The Soil Management Section assisted three potato producers with the implementation of irrigation projects, two of which were P.E.P. projects. Soil moisture regimes were monitored in one project (gun irrigation, Souris), yields were measured in the case of two projects. A site survey was conducted to assist a producer in implementing a third irrigation project (centre pivot) at Alberry Plains.

Assistance was provided for the Acadian Communities Advisory Committee in completing the first phase of a project to assess the requirements for a municipal drainage system. The Soil Management Section provided maps, soils data, and other technical information, as well as some in-field topographic surveys.

The Soil Management Section provided graphic and lettering services to all Branch Sections in the development of displays related to Branch programs. Signs and graphic materials were developed by the Section in support of the 1985 A.I.C. Conference held in our province during 1985.

The Soil Management Section also participated in a Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS) funded project to assess an airborne remote sensing technique as a means of providing early detection of moisture stress in potatoes. Data analyses will be completed early in 1986.

Weed and Pest Control

Aphid Alert

Island potato producers were provided with the Aphid Alert Service between July and mid-September. Seventy-seven yellow pan traps were located across the Island to monitor flights of the potato aphid, buckthorn aphid, green peach aphid, potato flea beetle, tarnished plant bug, and the six spotted leaf hopper. The traps were serviced twice a week with the information gathered placed on computer. A weekly report was issued to each cooperating grower on the program, with copies sent to each agricultural district office. In addition to the weekly producer reports, updates were routinely given to the media to indicate any significant population increases of the insects. The green peach aphid population migration flights were low this year. The potato flea bettle's second generation during July/August was high and remained high for two to three weeks in most areas on P.E.I. Potato producers using the Aphid Alert Program were able to prepare insect spray programs more effectively through the weekly information available to them.

Tansy Ragwort Control

A study was conducted on the effects of herbicides and clipping of pastures to the persistence of the weed, Tansy Ragwort, in test pastures during the Spring, Summer, and Fall. The two chemicals evaluated were 2, 4-D amine and Banvel.

Two demonstration sites were established, one in Belle River and the other in St. Peters. The sites showed fair to good control through the use of Banvel. Summer treatments were the poorest with Spring treatments of Banvel giving the best control.

An evaluation trial was set up and replicated in Queen's County to evaluate the technique of clipping in combination with the use of 2, 4-D amine and Banvel applied Spring, Summer and Fall. The evaluation showed the best control was from Spring applied Banvel. The Fall treatments will be assessed in the Spring of 1986. Clipping a pasture, allowing regrowth to take place, and applying herbicide gave no additional control of Tansy Ragwort.

At the demonstration and evaluation site, public tours were conducted at each, with over 200 people visiting the sites to see how this weed can be effectively controlled through the use of herbicides.

Wild Oat Control

Wild Oats were a major concern in specific grain fields this year as in past years. A wild oat herbicide control demonstration was conducted at two sites on P.E.I. (Souris and Rocky Point). Each site showed the effects of

the chemical, Hoegrass and Avenge applied to wild oat infested acreages. Besides wild oats, the two broadleaf chemicals, MCPA and Decamba, were also assessed on how effective they compared as herbicides for broadleaf control.

The results showed both Avenge and Hoegrass adequately controlled wild oats in barley crops. The major problem producers may have in applying the herbicides will be ensuring the proper timing of application is met. The growth stage of the crop and of wild oats is very critical for an effective wild oat control program in that setting if held back. These demonstrations gave farmers the opportunity through tours to see how effective herbicides can control wild oats.

Weed and Pest Control Extension Services

The major publications made available to farmers this year through this section were:

1. 1985 P.E.I. Potato Pesticide Recommendations;
2. 1985 Guide to Chemical Weed Control; and
3. 1985 Potato Crops Pest Control Recommendations.

Specific problems which were of concern this year was an outbreak of Colorado potato beetles at one farm on P.E.I. which showed resistence to the insecticide Belmark. Also potato farmers had corn borer damage showing up in certain fields. Corn Borer is an insect that when the damage appears in the field, there is nothing the farmer can apply to combat the pest because it has entered and is protected by the potato plant from any insecticide sprayed.

Army worms broke out in West Prince area, causing significant grain damage. Producers were advised to spray their grain crops when high populations of army worms were sighted. The Queen's and King's counties had evidence of army worms in grain fields, but no significant crop damage was evident to warrant an insecticide spray program.

Pesticide Control Act

This was the first full year in which the Pesticide Control Act was enforced as the Act and its Regulations were proclaimed on July 7 of 1985. This Act, under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Agriculture, regulates the sale, use, and handling of pesticides within the province.

The administration and enforcement of the Act has been streamlined under the revised edition in that the Minister may delegate authority to the Director of the Plant Industry Services Branch with respect to the issuance, renewal or cancellation of any license or permit.

There is also a section which would empower the Director to issue a "Chemical Control Order" when he feels that the use, storage, application, etc. of a pesticide may be detrimental to any person, property, or the environment. The powers of the Pesticides Control Inspector are more clearly defined in his responsibilities regarding the issuance of all licenses and permits granted under the Act as well as investigative reports associated with all aspects of pesticides on P.E.I.

Pesticide Advisory Committee

The Pesticide Control Act allows for better representation on the Committee with a nine member board, allowing more participation from farm and other groups, as well as government departments. The Committee also conducts a public hearing at least once a year to hear any matter concerning pesticides. This Committee had eight meetings as a group to discuss issues which were pertinent to their mandate.

Improving the educational standards with respect to use of pesticides was the direction of Committee activities during the past year. Through various initiatives, the users, applicators, dealers, and general public have been the target of Committee concern. Through the Committee, the Environmental Protection Service (E.P.S.) Pesticide Poisoning Manual was made available to the poison control centres in the province.

In addition, the Committee cooperated with Water Resources personnel of the Department of Community Affairs as they prepared a pesticide information manual for the Maritime region. This detailed manual, relates to pesticide used and safety and has been distributed to hospitals, poison control centres, certain provincial libraries, along with departmental colleagues in the Atlantic region.

Structural pest control operators were approached by the Committee asking for input in improving educational requirements for licensing within the Class "C" operators classification. The Committee researched the matter, corresponded and met with the operators, and, as a result, new licensing requirements become effective in 1986.

Investigation Reports

The Pesticide Control Inspector filed several investigation reports during the past year. They were related to accidental spillages, as well as drift damage caused by ground spraying of herbicides. Telephone queries were also responded to concerning aerial spraying and pesticide poisoning incidents. Most calls were referred by the toll-free, 24-hour answering service which was initiated mainly by the Department so that a quick response to any emergency situation would be realized.

Pesticide Control Program

Seven license classifications were available to those involved in the sale or commercial application of pesticides on Prince Edward Island. Dealers of commercial and/or restricted-class pesticides attended a vendors certification program in March as a pre-requisite for Provincial licensing. The Committee realizes that it is the vendors who are in direct contact with the users of pesticides and it is important that these dealers know their products and be able to provide accurate information. All dealer facilities were

inspected and observations were noted regarding their storage and/or display areas as they must comply with minimum standards in order to maintain/obtain a pesticide sales license.

Aerial Application

This year, in accordance with the new Act, all aerial spraying required a permit and conditions are now placed in the Regulations which deal specifically with aerial spraying.

TABLE 1

Acreage Treated By Aircraft — 1985

Treatment	Acreage
Potato insecticide & fungicide	15,813
Potato fungicide	36,854
Ridomil MZ	1,722
Potato topkill	923
Grain insecticide	303
Micronutrients	338
Total acreage	55,953

TABLE 2

Pesticide Applicators and Dealers Licensed

Class	Type	1984	1985
A	Ground (custom)	1	1
B	Aerial	10	10
C	Structural (pest control operators)	7	8
E	Non-structural (non-crop land	7	11
F	Other	3	5
DEALER	Wholesale or Retail	56	43

Other Progams

Various monitoring programs continued again this past season, but the unusually dry summer inhibited some of these tests. These programs were monitored by personnel from Provincial and Federal Departments of Environment, as well as officials of the Department of Agriculture.

Pesticide dealers and their staff participated in a seminar with respect to **The Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act.** The seminar dealt with training in regard to intra-Provincial travel of pesticides as well as the transport of these products within the province.

The 24-hour, toll-free Pesticide Information Centre telephone number was again available for the spraying season (June/September). This information answering service was implemented mainly to gather reports of misapplication of a pesticide and to report any accidents such as crashes, jettisons, spillage, or dumping. The answering service also handled requests for Use Permits, as well as directing any inquiries dealing with pesticides to those in government responsible for that type of program, depending on the nature of the call. In addition, a pilot project this past season initiated an Ottawa toll-free telephone number. This number was publicized locally and users of pesticides and the general public were able to receive up-to-date information from officials within the Pesticides Division of Agriculture Canada.

Information regarding pesticides, dealing with the importance of safe use and handling of these products, was stressed at community schools and dealer meetings, as well as circulating other items of interest through lcoal newpapers, farm publications, potato guide spots heard over local radio stations, and other media in an attempt to inform pesticide users along with the general public.

Information Section

The Information Section is responsible for co-ordinating public information activities for the four branches of the Department. Staffed by the Information Director, Information Officer and Secretary, the section is responsible for media relations, advertising, daily and weekly farm radio broadcasts, news and feature releases, printing publications and preparing the Department's monthly agricultural magazine, CornerPost.

Production Services Used

This Section processed approximately 25 Agri-Fact Sheets, coordinated the publishing and purchase of joint Atlantic provinces publications, and prepared publications such as the Department's Annual Report, the 1985 Seed Potato Growers Certification List and the Potato Production Brochure.

Farm News Radio Service Updated

Changes were implemented in the Farm & Forest News, 1/2 hour program heard on CHLQ (Q-93). The program was moved to a new listening time to better reach the agricultural audience, which required a shorter program. Therefore Forestry Branch, which had a portion of this program, began its own show at a different listening time. The new Agricultural Program 15 minutes in length is called "CornerPost".

Approximately 325 daily "Farm Reports" were heard on stations CFCY, CHTN, CJRW and Q-93. "Farm-Report" is designed to alert the farm community to new technology, agricultural news and extension events.

"Focus On Farming — This Week In Farming" is a 10-minute weekly program issued for airplay Sundays to CFCY, CHTN and Saturday to CJRW. This program features farm activities within the five agricultural districts of the province.

The agricultural market report was broadcast Monday-Friday on CFCY, CHTN, CJRW and Q-93. Close to 650 calls were received by the Zenith toll free line, available 24 hours daily. Commodity reports are updated daily so farmers are provided with the most timely market information.

Potato Crop Guide & Potato Crop Report are two radio programs designed for potato producers. It provides explicit production information about the potato extension program. These programs were aired April-September on CFCY, CHTN, CJRW and Q-93.

All private radio stations in the province carried Department programming which includes Farm Freport, Focus on Farming, This Week in Farming, 4-H Report, Preserving the Harvest, Potato Crop Report and Guide, as well as the Farm Market Report.

Press Work

The Section releases a weekly news package to local, regional and national farm press, prepares agricultural features, co-ordinates the mailing of the Market Report, and assists Island Livestock breeders with media coverage of livestock competitions. It also provides assistance to farm organizations wishing to work with the media. Major efforts in this area were for the P.E.I. Cattlemen's Association, The Atlantic Veterinary College, Women in Support of Agricultural for the Second National Farm Women's Conference and the Agricultural Institute of Canada through the 1985 A.L.C. Conference publicity committee. Approximately 345 news releases were released to media during 1985.

Photography

Photography services are offered to Department Staff in support of the department's extension information program. Approximately 200, photography orders were processed during the year.

Advertising

All advertising for the department is coordinated through the section with approximately 350 press ads and 125 broadcast ads processed.

Special Projects

This section is also responsible for special projects. This could include agricultural brochures, books, slide-tape presentations and special events planning. Section staff work closely with other Department branches in assisting and planning special extension/information efforts.

During 1985, the section also assisted the Summerside Chamber of Commerce with re-printing the "Fox Tales" information series into a booklet for free distribution.

ERDA Participation

The Director of the Section was active on the Information Sub-Committee for the ERDA agreement. The committee oversees the use of the information guidelines under the ERDA and co-ordinates any joint media work pertaining to the federal-provincial agreement.

Administration Section

This section processes all the financial, personnel and administrative transactions of the Department, and prepares the annual budget for submission to Treasury Board. In addition, the Section carries out a monitoring function to ensure that expenditures are made in accordance with the budget.

The Administration Section consists of two switchboard operators, one at 11 Kent Street and one at the Research Station, a mailman, two Clerks, a Technical Services Coordinator and the Director.

The autorized established for the Department is 162 part-time and full-time positions. The total strength of the Department at year end was 22 part-time and 137 full-time for a total of 159. The Department employed 25 summer students during the past year. We also employed 76 other people as relief and temporary employees for a maximum of 26 weeks.

Management Information

The Management Information Section has evolved from a mainframe computer system to a microcomputer system now known as Technical Services and Support. The mainframe data is no longer "on line" but has been converted to historical tape records.

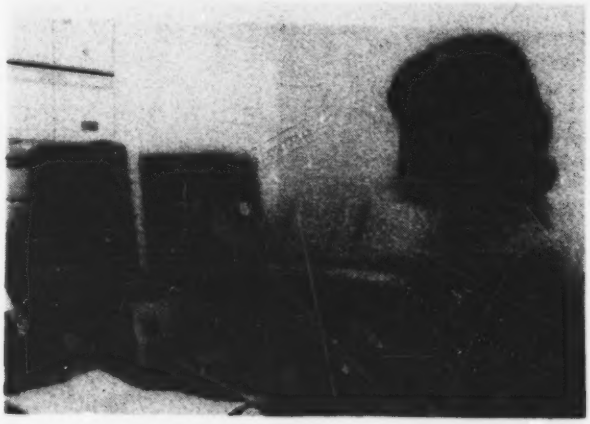
Agriculture at present has IBM-PC computers with 256K and printer in O'Leary, Charlottetown, and Montague district offices; Technical Services and Support; and Crop Section at the Research Station. An IBM-XT with 640K and 10MB hard disk and printer are located in the Livestock Section for the Swine Incentive Program and in Farm Management for Cost of Production studies and 4-H.

The department continues to use WordStar, Lotus 1-2-3, and dBASE III as its primary software, but has purchased upgrades to these programs plus a Multiple Regression package for Lotus 1-2-3. Staff are discovering numerous uses for computers and thus many programmes have been and are being developed.

In addition to writing Systems Development Procedures and Micro Development and Documentation Procedures; the Technical Services Co-ordinator developed, documented and trained staff for a Financial Planning Package, the School Milk Programme, the Annual W.I. Provincial Convention, and the District 4-H Programme.

Several group and individual microcomputer training sessions were held during the year. Numerous individualized training schedules were prepared to meet individual specific training needs. Tutorial packages for WordStar, Lotus 1-2-3, and dBASE III are a great asset when training individuals.

Microcomputers in agriculture, are being used for many tedious and repetitious tasks which once had to be performed manually and make it possible to do some analysis, evaluations and calculations that were never possible before, (or were very time-consuming). They allow staff to spend time on more productive, human-related duties. This Section's biggest problem is keeping up with the demand for computer development and meeting equipment needs.



The use of microcomputers to provide quicker and detailed information to farmers has escalated. Training sessions for computer use were provided and programming assistance was offered to department staff.

Prince Edward Island Women's Institute

The organization of Women's Institute branches in the province was initiated by the Department in 1913. A close working relationship has continued over the years with both groups vitally interested in the well-being of the rural community, and the provision of educational programs. Women's Institute's primary purpose is to serve as an educational organization for rural women. Currently there are 185 branches in the province with a total membership of approximately 2800. A Board of Directors of elected volunteers coordinates and directs the program of the organization on a provincial basis. Each branch is responsible to provide an appropriate program within their community. The Department provides technical and service support to the organization in the development and implementation of programs.

Educational Programs

In working towards the educational objectives of the Women's Institute, programs of an educational nature are organized for women on the community level, regionally, and provincially.

The Provincial Board of Directors develops and makes available a variety of study materials through their Program Library. The Library provides on loan, study packages in a format appropriate for use by local branch leaders at their regular meetings. During 1985 study packages were available on 13 topics, with a total of 255 requests for loans. Three study booklets continued to be available for group use as well. Booklet topics included: Health Habits — a Self-Test; Women in P.E.I. Labour Force; It's Your Future — Be Prepared, a pension self-assessment booklet.

The Board of Directors continues to initiate special programs and projects to improve public understanding and appreciation of the agricultural industry under the theme "From Farm To Table". The 1985 program activities were in two parts. During March, the Department assisted the Women's Institute in a series of activities to promote the message of the program. Activities included: coloring books on agriculture provided to all grade three students; information releases via newspapers and radio; food demonstrations and display at the Charlottetown Farmer's Market; a short presentation by committee members to Women's Institute District Conventions — a potential audience of approximately 1400. The second activity of the Farm to Table Committee was the co-sponsorship with the Department of Agriculture of a series of food demonstrations promotiong Island foods for the Christmas season. The "Country Kitchen Christmas" program featured recipes from Island women in the Country Kitchen/Corner column. The sessions were held in five centres with a total attendance of approximately 800. Agriculture Canada, Market Development Program also assisted the Women's Institute in sponsoring this promotion event.

Again in 1985, the Marketing Branch of the Department of Agriculture co-sponsored with the Women's Institute a food preservation information program to assist Islanders in the safe preservation of their agricultural products. A home economist was hired to provide information via daily radio spots, and to answer requests through a toll-free telephone service between July 2 and October 11. The various activities and advertisement of the program contributed to an increase of approximately 30 per cent in the recorded use of the service — with almost 1000 requests during that time.

Leadership and Personal Development Emphasized

The necessity of a program of continuous development of leadership skills has been recognized as a major component of the Women's Institute educational programs. The Women's Institute leadership and personal development program includes training opportunities in skills for conducting effective meetings, program planning, public relations, communications, effective advocacy, motivation and personal development.

Women's Institute members have the opportunity to participate in training opportunities through a series of workshops sponsored annually by the Board of Directors. Additional workshops are organized for Provincial Board members and District Convention Area officers to address the special leadership needs of these groups. Approximately 81 women participated in the various leadership programs initiated by the Women's Institute Board of Directors.

The leadership development program aims to have the members of the organization develop the skills necessary to allow them to assess and respond to issues and concerns affecting women, their family and the rural community.

Provincial Convention Successful

The seventy-second provincial convention centered on the theme "Accentuate the Postive", with Bernice Noblitt, President of the Federated Women's Institute as theme speaker. Seven simultaneous workshops were held each day of the Convention. Topics included: Women in International Rural Development; Positive Choices for Women in Agriculture; Food Buyers and their Influence on the Farm; Self-presentation. Approximately 475 women were registered for the two-day convention.

The business sessions of the Convention provide an opportunity for Women's Institute members to receive reports on projects, and participate in discussions which give directions to the Provincial Board for areas where training and/or action is required. During the Convention the first Adelaide Hoodless Award of Honour was presented to Bertha Pierce of Brackley. The Helen Herring Scholarship of $500. was presented to Jennifer Fairbanks, a third year student in home economics at University of Prince Edward Island. The winners in the Women's Institute branch program competition were Traveller's Rest (Maple Leaf); 2nd Stanhope W.I.; and 3rd Spring Valley W.I.

Provincial Exhibition

Once again the Exhibition of Handcraft and Arts operated by the Women's Institute as part of the Provincial Exhibition was a highlight for many of the people visiting the Exhibition grounds. The 1985 version of the show had approximately 1000 entries in a wide variety of classes in the categories of food, flowers, handcrafts, amateur photography and amateur painting.

Public Relations Highlighted

Women's Institute Week, designated as October 7-12, was an extra focus through the media on the programs and accomplishments of Women's Institutes in the province. The press and radio releases during W.I. Week were in addition to the on-going radio program, hosted and coordinated by a provincial board member and carried on most Island stations.

Women's Institute publishes "W.I. News" on a quarterly basis, with circulation to all 2800 members and some private subscriptions.

Linkages

On a national basis, Women's Institutes in Prince Edward Island are part of the 50,000 member Federated Women's Institute of Canada. At the national convention in June in London, Ontario, Beatrice Reeves of Cross Roads was elected National President for the 1985-88 term. Also, at the National Convention, a cheque for almost $2800 was presented as the province's share for an international project for pure water supported by Women's Institutes in all provinces.

The Prince Edward Island Women's Institute is a constituent society of the international organization of rural women called the Associated Country Women of the World. The A.C.W.W. has a membership of approximately eight million in 70 countries. The president of the world organization is Dr. Ellen McLean of Eureka, Nova Scotia. In 1986 the next international conference will be held in Killarney, Ireland. Doreen MacInnis, a past president of Prince Edward Island Women's Institute has been nominated in the election for an area vice-president for the 14 rural women's societies in Canada.

In May, a regional conference for A.C.W.W. societies was held in Truro. During the conference, the three Women's Institutes from the Maritimes presented more than $10,000 to the Ethiopia adopt-a-village campaign. The Project which raised the funds used the title "Walk a Mile in Their Sandals". Members in this province have contributed approximately $3500.

The "Woman of the Year" award is co-sponsored by the Summerside Lobster Carnival and Livestock Exhibition and the Women's Institute. The award recognizes Island women who have made an outstanding contribution to their community. The 1985 winner was Mrs. Dorothy Vessey of York.

Through a representative on the Board of Directors of the Transition House Association, Women's Institute members are able to show their support for the project. November was designated Transition House month to focus attention among Women's Institute branches on the organization's on-going commitment to assist the House. In addition to donations of needed items, Women's Institute branches also contributed more than $1600. to a fund which the Provincial Board and Transition House Board designate to specific projects.

WI was co-sponsor of the successful "Country Kitchen Christmas" sessions held across the province. Home Economist Gloria Wood displays the crown pork roast.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1985

	Expenditure	Revenue (Other than ERDA)
ANIMAL INDUSTRY SERVICES		
Branch Management	179,887.92	7,500.00
Veterinary Pathology (Herd Health)	570,381.63	114.50
Artificial Breeding	217,600.04	
Microbiology	118,026.03	364.80
Dairy	235,107.77	347.00
Veterinary Services	711,760.23	5,385.42
Swine Inspection	138,275.31	
Animal Industry Services TOTAL	2,171,038.93	13,711.72
EXTENSION SERVICES		
Branch Management	83,765.98	
Farm Development Program	123,933.51	3,873.77
District Offices	812,784.93	
Livestock Services	630,903.13	48,436.60
Crops Services	309,067.36	
Rural Development	446,737.43	11,016.08
Agricultural Education	231,631.00	
Grants	298,945.34	
Engineering	287,564.96	
Small Scale & Ltd. Resource Farm Program	197,918.00	
Extension Services TOTAL	3,423,251.64	63,326.45
ADMINISTRATION	400,311.46	392.00
INFORMATION	185,080.13	
MARKETING BRANCH	1,025,318.11	
Hog Stabilization	1,651,832.29	
PLANT INDUSTRY SERVICES		
Branch Management	177,741.90	
Soil and Feed Testing	240,539.29	
Disease and Weed Control	100,472.12	315.00
Potato Industry Services	390,283.82	100.00
Potato Disease Control	331,017.60	
Limestone Incentive	698,090.80	
Land Resources	101,781.16	
Community Pastures	179,515.83	116,963.44
Plant Industry Services TOTAL	2,219,442.52	117,378.44
MARKETING COUNCIL	101,338.73	
P.E.I. CROP INSURANCE AGENCY	187,107.19	
P.E.I. MILK MARKETING COMMISSION	1,697.72	
DEPARTMENT TOTAL	11,366,418.72	194,808.61

Under the Canada-Prince Edward Island ERDA Agri-Food Development Agreement Agriculture Canada cost shared Extension Support Programs and contributed $905,414.66 towards the above costs.

Notes: These payments are those support monies which were paid from Grant Accounts. If support was paid from other accounts, they will not be included here. There may also be grants paid to individuals which could also be considered grants to farm groups.

P.E.I. Beekeepers	$ 6,050.00
P.E.I. Holstein Fresian Assoc.	8,204.00
P.E.I. Guernsey Breeders Assoc.	566.00
P.E.I. Ayershire Breeders Assoc.	1,344.00
P.E.I. Hereford Breeders Assoc.	1,616.00
P.E.I. Jersey Breeders Assoc.	629.00
P.E.I. Shorthorn Assoc.	1,420.00
P.E.I. Cattlemen's Assoc.	2,037.08
P.E.I. Swine Breeders Assoc.	888.00
P.E.I. Quality Swine Inc.	18,000.00
P.E.I. Sheep Breeders Assoc.	578.00
Atlantic Standardbred Breeders Assoc.	27,435.00
P.E.I. Dairy Goat Assoc.	8,400.00
P.E.I. Rabbit Breeders Assoc.	200.00
P.E.I. Purebred Poultry Fanciers	150.00
P.E.I. Draft Horse Assoc.	1,521.96
P.E.I. Br. Cdn. Hunter Assoc.	1,000.00
P.E.I. Tobacco Comm. Mktg. Board	2,500.00
P.E.I. Soil & Crop Improvement	17,900.00
P.E.I. Strawberry Growers Assoc.	1,000.00
P.E.I. Greenhouse Growers Assoc.	600.00
P.E.I. Horticultural Assoc.	$ 1,500.00
P.E.I. Dairy Producers Assoc.	319.90
P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board	32,959.75
Potatoes Canada	46,000.00
School Milk Foundation	84,500.00
Women's Institute	14,500.00
P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture	55,437.52
National Farmers Union (NFU)	9,229.82
Women in Support of Agricultre	2,922.81
P.E.I. Junior Farmers	1,198.82
Canadian Horticultural Council	2,427.26
Charlottetown Farmers Market	15,000.00
Summerside Farmers Market	4,500.00
Souris Farmers Market	2,500.00
Wood Islands Farmers Market	4,800.00
Montague Farmers Market	2,000.00
West Prince Farmers Market	3,500.00
P.E.I. Hay & Straw Producers	1,654.00
P.E.I. 4-H Council	21,700.00
West Prince 4-H Council	800.00
Montague 4-H Council	1,100.00
Souris 4-H Council	1,500.00
Charlottetown District 4-H Council	1,200.00
Summerside 4-H Council	600.00